Gift of Mrs. Burford Samuel
October 1949.

12489. F.43

A RICH BACHELOR'S WILL.

OVER THREE AND A HALF MILLIONS DISPOSED OF.

Many Large Personal and Charitable Bequests—The "John Crerar Library" to be Founded in Chicago.

1891

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—The will of the late John Crerar was admitted to probate to-day in the County Court, and, in accordance with its terms, his friends, Colonel Huntington W. Jackson and Mrs. Norman Williams, both of Chicago, were recognized as executors without surety other than their personal recognizances. They will dispose of personal property scheduled at $3,500,000 and real estate valued at $50,000. Mr. Crerar was a bachelor and the last member of his branch of the family in the male line. On his mother's side he had two uncles, James and John Smeallie, late of the towns of Florida and West Galway, Montgomery county, State of New York, through whom first, second and third cousins survive. The will directs that the testator be buried beside his mother in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, and that a plain headstone, similar to hers, be erected over his grave.

Then follow bequests aggregating about $1,300,000, as follows:

$20,000 to each of his cousins, children of James and Mary Smeallie, of Florida, N. Y.; $10,000 each to his second cousins, the children of Andrew, William, John, Alexander, Peter, Robert and Boyd Smeallie, sons of James and Mary Smeallie; $10,000 each to his second cousins, the children of the late Andrew and John McKee Smeallie, sons of the late Elizabeth Smeallie, of West Galway, Saratoga county, N. Y.; $5000 to each of the children of his second cousins, Mary Elizabeth Bunyan and Mrs. Agnes Bunyan, of West Charlton, Saratoga county, N. Y.; $10,000 to Mary Elizabeth Bunyan for kindness to the testator's mother, in addition to the $10,000 given her as a second cousin; $10,000 to Mrs. Elizabeth Semallie, widow of John McKee Smeallie, for kindness to the testator's brother, Peter; $10,000 to Robert Marshall, of New York, an old friend of the testator's mother; $25,000 to the Misses Frances C. and Clara A. Paige, of Schenectady, N. Y.; $5000 to his friend, T. B. Blackstone, of Chicago, to purchase a memento of the deceased; $50,000 to his friend and partner, J. McGregor Adams; $50,000 to his junior partner, Edward S. Shepard; $20,000 to Rev. S. J. McPherson, Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago; $20,000 to Alonzo W. Paige, of Chicago; $50,000 to Miss Katharine W. Peck, of Waterbury, Conn.; $50,000 to Mrs. Caroline Caton Williams, wife of Norman Williams, and $60,000 to their three children; $10,000 each to his late partners, Morris K. Jesup and John S. Kennedy, of New York, to be expended in mementoes.

The will then directs his executors to distribute his silverware, now at Tiffany's, New York, his books, pictures and furniture among his friends, and disposes of some other minor belongings, including his mother's watch, which is given to Mrs. Mary E. Bunyan.

The testator gives $100,000 to the Second Presbyterian Church, of Chicago; $100,000 to the trustees of the same church, the income to be used for mission work, and $25,000 to the Scotch Presbyterian Church, on Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue, New York, being the church in which the testator was baptised.

Then follows a large number of bequests, ranging in amount from $10,000 to $50,000 each, to charities, hospitals, historical, scientific and literary societies, etc.; $5000 is given to the American Sunday-school Union, of Philadelphia, for use in the Western States and Territories; $10,000 to the St. Andrew's Society, of New York; $100,000 for a colossal statue of Abraham Lincoln; $1000 to Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, the income to be devoted to caring for the family lot.

The remainder of the estate, estimated to be worth about $1,250,000, is set apart for the erection and maintenance of a public library in the city of Chicago, to be known as the "John Crerar Library." He directs that, in the selection of books, the creation of "a healthy moral and Christian sentiment" be kept in view, and that all "nastiness and immorality" be excluded.

In the last categ[illegible] he includes: "Dirty French novels a[illegible] as [illegible] skeptical trash."

[illegible] ty to t[illegible]

OPE[illegible]NG OF A LIBRARY.

1889-91

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

CARLISLE, Pa., Jan. 3.—The new library erected by Miss Amelia B. Given, of this city, at a cost of many thousands of dollars, was last night dedicated at Mt. Holly, six miles south of this city. The opening address was made by Hon. Charles H. Mullin, one of the owners of the largest paper mills in the State, who briefly stated the object of the gathering. Addresses were delivered by Governor Beaver, Secretary of the Commonwealth Stone, President Reed, of Dickinson College, and Revs. Messrs. Norcross and Mapes.

The last speaker was Col. McAlarney, editor of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*.

Excursion trains were run on the different railroads. The new library was erected for the employes of the mills.

...The National Library, the library of the Ecole des Beaux Arts and similar institutions in Paris, are about to inaugurate a new measure, that of photographing all the books and manuscripts of which they have only one or at most two copies on their shelves. In case of accidents, by fire or theft, they will thus be able to reproduce any original lost; and more than this, libraries outside of Paris, be it in the provinces or abroad, may easily procure copies. From the probable sale of the latter, in fact, the expense of the undertaking is likely to be partly, if not wholly, defrayed.

1859

***

Suggestions as to sites for the World's Fair continue to come in. Dr. Gatling, the gun inventor, in an interview, reiterates the argument in favor of Central Park. He says the receipts would be in excess of a million dollars more than if held at any other place; that there are 155 acres of available land, and that, by skillful engineering, the buildings could be erected and removed, and, for half a million, the land put in better shape than before the Exposition. Mrs. Bessie Schwalle, who seems to be a business woman, writes that Inwood is the proper place for the Fair, as it combines these three necessary points: Reasonable distance from the centre of the city; direct accessibility; an abundant water front. Walter S. Church makes a new recommendation, that there be at the Exposition a great display of books, and that the nucleus be formed of a great national library. He comments on the fact that the 47 largest libraries in this country aggregate but 5,000,000 volumes, while the three greatest European libraries, those of Paris, London and St. Petersburg, have 4,000,000. Mr. Church suggests that a building be erected at the fair grounds devoted exclusively to this department. Millions of books, he thinks, would be contributed by private persons and corporations. Congress would give all of its reports, etc. He suggests that each State should appoint its own library committee and collect books. Thus collected the books would be kept together as a magnificent free library. "No feature of the World's Fair could," he says, "be made more astonishing, and, at the same time, as permanently and as growingly useful as such a stupendous library. In 1992 we might again prove the eminent superiority of the United States in books and industrial literature, as well as other products and resources."

*

A LIBRARY FOR CORNELL.

A Handsome Present from ex-President White.

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University at Ithaca, N. Y., yesterday, a letter from ex-President White was read, in which he offers to the University, under certain conditions, his historical library, consisting of about 30,000 volumes, besides 10,000 pamphlets and many rare manuscripts. The collection of this library is the work of the past thirty-five years, and its cost is estimated at over $100,000. In concluding President White says:—

> "There are three places in this country, in either of which it would gratify my feeling of local and personal attachment to bestow it as a gift. Foremost among these is the Cornell University, and in case there can be provided for the collection some day not far distant a suitable fireproof room in any building which shall be erected for your general library, and proper provision made for its maintenance and usefulness, it will give me pleasure to place it permanently in your custody."

The Trustees have accepted the gift. The Department of History and Political Science, which was originally founded through the endeavors of Professor White, was reorganized and two new Professorships established, one in history and political and municipal institutions and one in political economy, finance, and social science. This Department the Board decided to designate the President White School of History and Political Science, in honor of its founder. A new library buildin[illegible] ng $225,000, will be commenced durin[illegible] sent year.

A LIBRARY FOR NEWBURG.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Sept. 18.—The cornerstone of the Moffat Library, a structure, with contents, to cost $50,000, was laid at Washingtonville, Orange County, this afternoon in the presence of a large assemblage of people. Major J. Owen Moore was master of ceremonies and the Hon. A. G. Owen presided at the exercises. Many relice were placed in the cornerstone. There was music by the Washingtonville Band and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Warren, Hathaway, Mapes, Miles, and others.

1888-9

The Great Libraries of the World.—Mr. A. R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress, in a published account of the National Library of the United States, for which a new building is projected, gives some information of other great libraries. He sta[illegible] that the National Library now contains [illegible] 000 volumes, not counting 200,000 pamphlets and a large and rare collection of manuscripts, and states that the annual increase is about 25,000 volumes.

"When I took charge of this library, twenty-two years ago, there were twenty-five larger libraries in the world. Now there are but five larger.

"The largest library in the world is the Bibliothèque Nationale of France, or National Library, formerly Royal, then Imperial, according to the changes of Government. It was founded in 1737 by a royal printing tax requiring a copy of each book printed for the King's library and contains 2,250,000 volumes. The library of the British Museum, founded in 1753 from a donation of books and private gallery of Sir Hans Sloan, contains 1,500,000 volumes. It became a great library through liberal donations from subjects of the Crown, including many great private libraries. The books, engravings, arts, antiques and natural history have long since outgrown their present quarters. All collections except books, engravings and a few antiquities have been successively removed to Kensington to make room. The St. Petersburg Imperial Library, founded by ukase of the Czar, has 1,000,000 volumes. The Royal Library of Berlin, founded by a copy tax in 1661, the oldest big library on the globe, has 700,000 volumes. The Library of Munich, Bavaria, founded in the sixteenth century, claims 800,000, but includes pamphlets, which we do not. If we counted pamphlets we would have 770,000. The next in size is the library of Congress [illegible] is

---

—The arrangement of probably a unique collection has just been concluded at the Bibliotheque de l'Arsenal, Paris. It is a collection of nearly all the French theatrical pieces, since the first known theatrical representations in France, which have been printed. About 18,000 pieces have been classified in this collection. If to these be added the number previously classified elsewhere, it would seem that the number of French dramatic works regularly catalogued amounts to about 35,000.

—It is tolerably certain, and we do not see how any one can pretend to deny it, that the libraries are fostered and strengthened by the newspapers. It may be doubted if they would have one half their present patronage were newspapers no more plenty than they were seventy-five years ago. It is true that a large share of the literature sought in the libraries is not of the strictly "better class," but, again, a large share of it is, and it may be safely stated that every scientific discussion conducted either learnedly or superficially in the newspapers will send more or less people to dig and delve for further information among the dusty tomes that they would never have looked into but for their being addicted to the newspaper habit.—*St. Louis Repuqlican.*

—The various libraries in Edinburgh contain a total number of 750,000 volumes, equal to 3·24 volumes per head of the population. This proportion is exceeded by only three large cities in the world, Munich, Washington, and Rome.

---

* *

he *Architect*, of London, Architectural Association pelled to close its library on tinued theft of books which have been unable to stop.

* *

IN NEED OF FUNDS.

THE GOOD WORK OF THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The Children's Library Association, which has done a great deal in the five years of its existence toward furnishing the younger school children in this city with good reading, seems to be in urgent need of pecuniary assistance just at present. The association was organized for the purpose of supplementing the benefits of the Free Library Association, which supplies books to children over twelve years of age only. The founders of the Children's Library, many of whom were teachers in the public schools, realized that there was no more suitable time in the child's life to lay a proper foundation for a later correct taste than in the years before the age of twelve.

With this idea in view, the enterprise was started, with the hope that from small beginnings greater results would come and that stations for supplying children with reading might be established throughout the city. The first reading room and library, however, for lack of resources, remains the only one. It is situated at 590 Seventh Avenue, near Forty-second Street, and there the children flock after school hours and get their books, the only requirement being the presentation of a certificate from the teacher in whose class the child happens to be, and a request from the child's parent or guardian. The room is supplied with all the children's magazines, and is used also as a reading room until 5:30 o'clock. Some five hundred volumes have formed the main stock of the library, all of them the gifts of publishers or members of the association.

In selecting the books for the library the work is referred to a strictly non-sectarian reading committee which exercises the strictest censorship and admits only the best. Advice is also given to the children as to what they should read. The popularity of the institution may be inferred from the fact that in April there were 762 patrons of the library and in May 788. Were the accommodations larger and were there any possibility of increasing the number of distributing points there would doubtless be hardly any limit to the number of children benefited by the library. The Trustees of the library are: the Rev. Dr. Brady E. Backus, the Rev. Dr. F. De Sola Mendes, Nathaniel Niles, Miss A. H. Westervelt, S. Edmund Seaman, Miss Flora F. Davis, Edgar Vanderbilt, Miss E. S. Hanaway, Walter Carter, and Edward L. Chichester. Any one who feels disposed to assist in preventing the closing of the library on account of the present lack of funds may do so by communicating with the Secretary, Morris O. Ezekiel, 127 East Eighty-seventh Street.

HORNS IN DANGER.

"The Library" Jan. 1891 contains Latin verses on Libn not being able to find a wanted book

---

A $3,000,000 Library for Chicago.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 6.—The will of the late John Creerar, was to-day declared valid by the Circuit Court. Cousins of the deceased contested the will, which bequeathed $3,000,000 of the estate to the city, for the founding of a great library.

nism. If I were a Unitarian bishop of New York State, I would invest $60,000 in a Harlem Unitarian church, $50,000 in Albany, and give the pastors of these churches a living salary that would enable them to be able preachers and fit exponents of Unitarianism; and, thus, progress would be made, as it never can be by the present niggardly indifference to the extension of Unitarian principles in large cities.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOLARS.

The Functions of a Library in a Community of Scholars.

The lecture last week before the Harvard divinity students was given by Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University. His subject was "The Functions of a Library in a Community of Scholars." We give an abstract of his interesting and helpful address:

Bibliography stands to-day less for a science of a few than it does with the many for a practical knowledge of what is known, and it is becoming more and more recognized as an indispensable help in every department of intellectual activity. There are many reasons for this change. It arises in part from the clearing of the perception that it is a waste of time for a writer to attempt to compass a subject till he learn what has already been done in it. To do otherwise is as unprofitable as it is for an inventor to attempt a combination of mechanical movements for a given end until he has examined the records of the Patent Office. Again, the increase of large libraries has rendered the attainment of bibliographical knowledge far more practicable, though our libraries are still far enough from what such repositories should be, to aid a thorough student.

Although as a science, theology claims and has received more than a lion's share of books, our libraries scarcely afford a superior equipment for its study. What proportion exists between demand and supply? And how far can a special student reasonably hope not *a* library, but *libraries*, to supply that demand.

It may be almost wild work, estimating the number of volumes which have been scattered over the world since the invention of printing. A pretty careful estimate, however, thirty-five years ago, put the number of works at about three million, of which at least one-third were German. They could be safely put at two volumes, some would say three volumes, to the title; and this would give us from six to nine millions unduplicated volumes. And, if the editions were of an average of three hundred copies, we get from eighteen hundred millions to twenty-seven hundred millions of separate books to stand against waste, destruction, and time. If these figures were at all approximate, then we may safely reckon to-day ten million volumes, without duplication, as a stock of literature possibly existing in libraries, or lost in concealment throughout the civilized world. Of this, *not a fifth part finds itself in any one library*, and probably very much less than all can be found in the aggregation of the world's great libraries.

Nor was probably the world ever better proportionately supplied with books than now, though we make all allowance for the vastly greater area of knowable material in present use.

The exaggerated reports of the vast extent of ancient libraries have been subjected of late years to a close scrutiny, and it is extremely doubtful if the largest of them have exceeded the amount of matter contained in a modern library of one hundred thousand volumes; and, of the libraries of such extent, there are probably not far from one hundred in the civilized world. In comparing modern libraries, Mr. Winsor said, it is doubtful if the Vatican has to-day more printed books than the Boston Athenæum, and the Bodleian more than the library of Congress or possibly more than the aggregate collection of Harvard University. We have several larger libraries in the United States than exist in Italy.

The ten million volumes constituting first and last the world's stock of books since the invention of printing, with an average edition of three hundred,—which, I think is low,—will give an aggregate of three thousand million volumes which have been put upon the world within the last four centuries and a little more. I doubt if of these three thousand million there are to-day in the United States fifteen million of volumes outside of private houses and the book-shops, or say one-half of one per cent. of the grand total,—a striking estimate of the inadequacy of public collections of all sorts to preserve the world's literature. In the fifty or sixty years which fol-

come down to us comparatively small. Of this eight million, I doubt if there are more than a few thousand on this continent. The largest number in one place, so far as I know, is in the library of Union Theological Seminary in New York, where they have perhaps four or five hundred and utterly inaccessible and unusable, if they are in no better condition now than they were six or seven years ago.

Now, what is a single scholar's relation to this ten million of books? What is the specialist's relation to his department? What the theologian's to his? It was De Quincey's computation that a man most favorably situated and reaching old age could hardly hope to master more than from five to eight thousand books. There may be a diversity of opinion as to what it is to master a book. A person having to do with many books handles them as tools; and he is in a position where his acquaintance with books is continually *checked* against, as a man diminishes his bank account,—rarely, I suspect, *reads* books in the ordinary sense. He turns the pages, and tastes the quality here and there of many.

There is a skill in this sort of foraging which comes with much practice. Such a person is more inclined to read the most neglected part of a book, its preface. He finds from that what the author's purpose is. He scans closely his contents-table: he gets from that his scope and divisionary methods. He marks his opening sentences, and sees if the writer knows how to go into the core of his subject at once. He watches his foot-notes, and makes up his mind as to the way the author uses his authorities, and what they stand him instead of. He finds what he has left over in his appendices. He examines his index, and judges if there are any salient parts to his book, and what they are. I have known such a professional reader, as you may call him, to go through two or three stout octavos of an evening, ticketing away in the recesses of his memory or his note-book much that would serve him or others, as the occasion might arise, and rising from the task with a pretty clear conception of just what niche those three octavos filled in the field of knowledge. The diary of such a man showed, one year, that he had thus read, after his fashion, fifteen hundred volumes, besides giving hasty inspection of very many more. The literary luxury to such a man is the occasional chance of deliberate, leisurely *reading;* and, once a year, he would indulge in the slow devouring of a famed novel. The spending of much time on new books is certainly of doubtful value. It was one of Emerson's rules never to read any but yearlings, at least; and this philosophy is at the bottom of the rules of the great European libraries, which do not make a new work accessible under a year, after which time, there are but few comparatively to inquire for it. The calculation has been made that three-quarters of the books published are forgotten within a year, and not more than one in a hundred survives twenty years.

If we turn from the student or reader to the libraries which supply him, we shall find that not a single library is perfect enough to satisfy any considerable number of the diversity of specialists. I have had to do with some of the best equipped general libraries in this country, provided with good keys of their contents, and yet I never attempted the investigation of a single subject, in any direction, that I did not find myself at a loss both for books that *have* been and books that *have not been* written. Nevertheless, it is a common piece of foolishness for the thoughtless to wish our libraries were thinned out and reduced to what they call manageable proportions. Books are but people, *usually at their* best,—people of many ages and from many parts. The good folk who sneer at the profusion of books seldom sneer at the still greater profusion of men. Mr. Winsor said he once asked the late Mr. Winter Jones, when he was the principal librarian of the best working library in the world, the British Museum, "How often does it happen that a special student, seeking the utmost recesses of his subject, can find all he desires in your vast collection?" His answer was, "Not one such investigator in ten is satisfied."

"Because you have not the books he needs?" I asked.

"Yes, partly for that reason," he replied, "but still in good part because the books do not exist. When you have been a librarian as long as I have," he added, "you will be convinced of the exceeding small margin of the bounds of knowledge which books have as yet spread over."

Nothing is more true than that comparatively few books add much to our store of knowledge. Most books are indeed a digest made with more

---

N REGISTER.

Feb 1885

---

material has begun operations near Joenkaeping, and is turning out paper in all degrees of excellence, from tissue to sheets three-quarters of an inch in thickness.

---

dren on the head, and listens patiently to the complaints of ailing old people. He is a long-headed man, like Sir Walter Scott, but without his bulk of brain. He speaks in a

---

The Astor Library and Its Readers.

Everybody in New York and its neighborhood has heard of the Astor Library, but there are many who do not know just what it is and what it is for. The idea even prevails in some quarters that as it is not a "popular" library, is not open to the public, and is of little real use. No idea could well be more erroneous. True, it is not a "popular" library in the sense of containing for the most part that sort of books that most pleases the ordinary casual reader; but it is popular in the sense of being open to the people for reading and reference, and its great value becomes apparent when the character of its contents and the use to which they are put are known.

The Astor Library is primarily a library for specialists. It has two main departments: that of Science and Art, and that of History and Literature. In the former are included all works pertaining to natural history in the widest sense of that term, including geology and all its allied sciences, geography, zoology, botany, mineralogy, and so on, and also those pertaining to the human sciences—ethnology, palæontology, mythology, theology, music, the fine arts and the technical arts, logic, jurisprudence, politics, medicine, social science, statistics and patents. The other department includes only such books as its name implies.

The most essential requirement of students in any department of science or art or history or literature is a large collection of books treating of the subject they are studying. Fresh work in any of these departments of inquiry has for an indispensable prerequisite a knowledge of previous work done. Even where fresh original work is not intended, many readers desire to become acquainted, for their information and instruction, with something beyond the mere rudiments of a subject. To all such, a collection of books more complete than can be found in an ordinary public library is necessary.

The rapidly increasing use made of the library by scholars and students is shown in the report of the Superintendent for 1885. In 1881 there were 44,123 readers; in 1882, 51,856; in 1883, 57,613; in 1884, 59,057, and in 1885, 72,584—an increase last year of nearly one-third in the alcove students and one-fourth in the general readers. The total number of volumes read or consulted was 166,561, of which 70,282 were in the Department of Science and Art, and 96,279 in the Department of History and Literature. The reading covered a remarkably wide range of topics. English literature heads the list in the number of volumes drawn—20,855; and United States history comes next, with 15,492. Natural science in various lines shows a total of about 16,000 volumes read. American, classical, French and German literature and philology and linguistics were read to the extent of more than 5,000 volumes each. In English history over 5,000 volumes were read, and in Canadian and French history over 3,000 volumes each. More than 5,000 volumes were read in the department of Fine Arts, 2,815 in that of Theology, 2,713 in Jurisprudence, 6,513 in Medicine and Surgery, 3,413 in Mechanics and Engineering, 1,838 in Music, and over 5,000 in Patents.

These few selections from the report may serve at least to indicate to the general reader the variety of topics included within the range of the library, and the extensive use of it by scholars and students in many and various branches of learning and research. Such a library is one of the necessities of any centre of literary knowledge and general learning. The extent to which, in its quiet and unpretentious way, the Astor Library is making New York such a centre, is perhaps sufficiently shown by the very number of readers that use it, and the number and character of the volumes they consult.

N.Y. Mail & Express.

---

ere you ha

History of

How did I come by
Most naturally and
My mother gave it to
my birth, the second "tw
She was romantic and
in the face of old, Purita
ily customs, and called
dear friend, an exceedi
Israeliti descent, and
daughter of a rich mercha
As ill luck would have it, j
my christening my dear mo
to her room with illness, an
mantic father stole a march

One of the trustees of the estate of the late Mr. Brewster, the Boston banker, says that the towns of Wolfboro and Tuftonboro' will have the interest on about $1,300,000 for the support of schools and public libraries and for aiding the poor.

The Treasury De

ITALIAN LIBRARY THEFTS.

From the London Times.

The Italian Government has offered a reward of 10,000 lire (£400) to any one giving certain information of where a codex of Cicero's "De Officiis," which has been lately stolen from the Municipal Library of Perugia, is to be found. A report is current in Rome that the stolen manuscript has been sold for 600 lire (£24) to an English or German collector. The Italian Embassies in foreign countries are authorized to pay the reward. Roman papers announce that another manuscript parchment codex has been stolen from the Casanatensian Library in Rome. It consisted of four parchment leaves, and was the "Mundus Novus" written by Amerigo Vespucci himself.

—Miss Annie T. Howard will presently begin the construction of a free public library building in New Orleans as a memorial of her father, the late Charles T. Howard. It will cost $50,000, and contain 100,000 volumes. When completed it will be placed under the charge of the Tulane University.

—Newberry gave Chicago nearly $3,000,000 for library purposes. Enoch Pratt gave Baltimore upwards of $1,000,000; Mrs. Fiske gave Cornell $1,500,000; Judge Packer gave Lehigh University $500,000; Professor Horsford gives Wellesley nearly $250,000.

PUBLIC LEDGER
AND DAILY TRANSCRIPT
Philadelphia, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1886.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER Office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

"MY WORK IS FINISHED; I AM SATISFIED."

When the Enoch Pratt Public Library was opened at Baltimore last Monday its munificent founder, Mr. Pratt, closed his few remarks by saying: "My work is finished; I am satisfied." How few of the world's benefactors have the opportunity to say this? Too often they leave to others to execute their great charities, and lose the satisfaction that comes from seeing a true and full consummation of their noble purposes. But Mr. Pratt, accustomed during a long life of usefulness to guide and direct the expenditure of trust funds and estates, wisely determined to act in his own

The Library building [illegible] to the city, but not unduly expensive in construction. It was carefully planned, under Mr. Pratt's direction, and more money was expended to make it secure in every way as a depository of books and convenient to the users than for ornamental purposes. The books themselves are kept in large, low-ceiled rooms, to which only the attendants are admitted. Readers and visitors are admitted to

---

AY MORNING, N

FAMOUS PSEUDONYMS

How Well-Known Authors Baptized Themselves and Why.

A NICKNAME SYMPOSIUM

The Histories of Noms de Plume Whose Owners Have Moved Many to Laughter and Tears.

Joaquin Miller's Story.

Saint Joaquin was the husband of Saint Ann, who was the mother of the Virgin Mary, and is the patron saint of sailors. The shrine of Saint Ann de Bonpere, below Quebec, Canada, holds a life-size statue of Sain Joaquin. Secondly, Joaquin Marietta was boy of a good family in the San Joaqu country of California in 1852. But som "roughs" despoiled his home, hung h brother, misled his wife and drove him desperation. The Mexicans were sadly treat by the Americans in the early Califor days. And Joaquin Marietta vowed reveng He killed at least twenty of the roughs wit his own hand, and finally had a band of Mex can outlaws so brutal about him that bo State and Federal troops were called out. reward of $5,000 was offered, and the bra boy was finally killed and his head cut off a exhibited in San Francisco. But many h that he never had been killed; that so other fellow's head was substituted to get reward.

Well, in 1854, I, a long-haired lad, took up [illegible]ode with the then wild and splendid sava Mount Shasta, afterward famous as M[illegible]cs, and as no one seemed to see any p pos[illegible]t that of plunder on the part of c casting his lot with these denizens of mounta[illegible], why, of course I was called a r ber; and finally it began to be said that I the original "Joaquin" and must be kille captured. Finally I had to leave my home, and next turned up in Washing Territory as a school teacher. Here I w verse a sketch of Joaquin Marietta 1866, when a lawyer and County Judg Grant county, Oregon, I published this p in Portland, Oregon, along with some o verses, and called the little book "Joa et al." At the same time it was still vag hinted that I was the original Joaquin etta. My horsemanship and knowled Spanish gave color to this, and even w candidate in the hotly contested electi Judge this charge was brought up. Th is now called "California" in "Songs Sierras." Thirdly, I was almost comp accept the name "Joaquin" after I pu "Joaquin et al." To have tried to d explain would have made matters wor so I at once, 1866-67, took the name to make it respectable. I can on am not the Robber Joaquin Mari should like to add that I shou great reproach even were it

---

WHAT THEY READ.

The Literary Tastes of Some Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

IN THE STATE LIBRARY

Books on All Sorts of Subjects to Entertain the Statesmen.

Special Correspondence of THE TIMES.

HARRISBURG, April 3.

A good idea of the tastes of a Legislative body is to be formed by a visit to the State Library, one of the prettiest portions of the antiquated Capitol building. Its quiet corners, well-filled alcoves and bookish surroundings give it an attractive interior to the sojourner in Harrisburg, and it is here that the statesmen elected to frame laws for the common weal meet to replenish their literary exchequer or fortify their ponderous arguments that afterwards blossom in print in the *Legislative Record*. The Library is also sought for the light literature with which its shelves are well stocked and a casual examination of the register of the books taken out from time to time reveal inside peculiarities of the noted political lights who shine in the Senate and House of Representatives. The Librarian informs me that the present Assembly is, compared with its predecessors, not much given to books. Of the 52,000 volumes in the catalogue and on the shelves, there are taken out less than dozen a week. Friday is the day the most books are demanded, as on that day there is an adjournment and members provide themselves with literature to carry them over the interval till the Monday session.

Among those I find on the list are the following: State Superintendent Higbee, who consoles imself while free from the duties of his department with conning the pages of "The Time and lace of Homer." Probably at some future day is prominent educator, like Earl Derby, will vor the public with his version of the Iliad.

Senator Agnew, of Beaver, is studying up Stewart on Marriage and Divorce," with an e probably to some law to curb the shocking nerican and Chicago custom of severing the rital contract. George McGowan, the dapper d good looking member of the House from e Second Philadelphia district, peruses Beitel's Digest of Corporations," no doubt led this study by his intense desire to pass the lagistrates' bill and put the wires of that reatest of corporations, the Western Union, unerground. Woodward, of Centre, who lost one f his arms in a patent thresher, manages to egister his name with the other for Irving's "Sketch Book," in which charming work he will find some agrestic and bucolic touches suited to strong a champion as he is of the State Agriltural College at Bellefonte. Senator McClure, Mercer, is intent upon the "Chronicles of Old irginia," which if he does not find will "never re," may himself weary of. Perhaps the Senator seeking light on the New Virginia, under the idget politician Mahone, apropos of another gislative jaunt to Richmond. Senator Aull, of llegheny, turns from the contemplation of relief the workingmen by his Utopian scheme of ublic improvements to the perusal of "The ourse of True Love," which, like legislation, oes not always run smoothly, and "Bethesda." Senator Cooper, red-headed, hopeful and fer- le, is at the same time quite choice in his lite- ary selections and is now intent upon "The dventures of a Widow," presumably a post- umous autobiography of the late General Ben- amin F. Butler, who some persons assert ran as candidate for President in 1884. The Field Marshal also varies his political studies with the "Knickerbocker Papers," "The Poet at the Breakfast-Table" and "Oddities of Southern Life." Senator Sutton, of Montgomery—like his young friend Redding, of same county, who s in the House—reads many law books, the ormer being credited with Buckalew's masterly work on the Constitution frequently and the atter with "Morris on Replevin," "Benjamin on Sales," etc. President pro tem. of the Senate Mylin, farmer-like, consults "The British Reports on Fodder Crops," and is as au fait on Silo's fertilizers and grains as on points of parliamentary law. The authoritative "fodder" of the Senate, so to speak, Senator Lee, is deep in study of "The Lives of the Lord Chancellors," perhaps with an ambition some day himself to grace the woolsack in some Western county. Mr. Berry, of Forest, is reading "Called Back," although he did not take it out like a member did last year, expecting to find therein complete information in regard to "Extra Sessions." Andrew Robertson, the glass-blower and labor agitator, of Allegheny, pores over such works as "Conflict of Capital and Labor," "Progress and Poverty," relieved with the lighter volume of "A Terrible Temptation." Charles Gaine, a Democratic member from Bucks, ponders "Before the Footlights," and Fetters, in the House, from literary Chester county, seeks mental dissipation in "A Young Girl's Wooing," "The Cliff Climber," "The Bush Boys," etc. Ex-Speaker Faunce consults "Captain John Smith," induced thereto possibly by a desire to acquaint himself with the history of the F. F. V.'s, so as to make it count in certain contingencies of this Democratic administration, which may again throw the influential old mother of Presidents to the front as a State. Senator Kennedy having returned after his severe cold, tackles "The Thirty Years' War," rather an undertaking for a valetudinarian. Senator Biddis, of Pike, indulges in quasi horticultural fancies and reads "A Transplanted Rose," whilst King, his neighbor from Schuylkill, is intent upon the study of "Mason and Dixon's Line," with no designs, however, to revive it as a sectional demarcation.

[illegible] is perusing [illegible]'s "Commentaries" [illegible] Henry C. Carey's works, fitting himself doubtless for the seat of Judge Kelley, and Osbourne, the one-armed soldier and Senator from the Third district, scans the pages of "Near to Nature's Heart." If the versatile Rufus Shapley would supplement his satire of "Solid for Mulhooley" with a political novel "Near to the People's Heart," doubtless both the above Senators would be found seeking it at the State Library. Lowry, of Indiana, the Holman of the House and chronic objector, finds solace in the leaves of such standard works as "Every Day Religion"—it being necessary to have it every day while in Harrisburg, and "Caspar, the Guacho," a fearful tale of blood and thunder. McAvoy, of the Twenty-sixth Legislative district, selects "Put Yourself in His Place," whilst J. Simpson Africa, the affable Secretary of Internal Affairs, reads "My Lady Pocahontas"—why his mind turns like Ex-Speaker Faunce in this direction is a query—and "An American Politician." Senator Upperman is a devotee of that necromantic diplomatist and statesman Disraeli, and "Lothair" and "Endymion" are registered as taken out by him. Senator Wolverton is studying "The Vetoes of 1883," in contemplation probably of use for circutation later on, when the Republican apportionment bills meet Executive antagonism.

Some of the members of the House are inclined to the wierd and gloomy. Chadwick, of Delaware, reads the "Mystery of the Docks." George Pearson, the popular House Clerk, "The Side Lights of London;" Imboden, of Lebanon, "The Mysterious Island;" Auditor General Niles is down for "The Antiquary" and "Society;" Senator Macfarlane studies "Health Reports;" Senator Henninger is reading up "Mahomet," possibly led thereto by the Anglo-Egyptian conflict, and Senator Hughes "Mr. Isaacs." The voluble Sponsler, of Perry, finds pleasure, although quite a domestic man, in "The Woman Hater." Snodgrass, chairman of appropriations, searches the *Legal Intelligencer;* Colborn, the eagle of the Alleghenies, from Somerset, never seeks the Library except for a law book, and is not a novel reader. Senator Hall is a frequent caller for law works, as is Senator Wallace when in his seat. Stubbs, in the House, from Chester county, is fond of novels. Among his entries are "Lucy Crafton" and Mrs. Skaggs' Husband." Robinson, of Delaware, reads historical and politico-historical books. Stewart, of the Eighteenth district, Philadelphia, is interested in metaphysics, apparently, and has out "Atwater's Logic." Hulings, the Venango oil broker, is reading, "Where the Battle Was Fought."

Most of the Senators and members go home over the Sunday adjournment and prepare for the week's work there, so the State Library, though an excellent one and replete with curious, as well as useful books, is not as generally used as one would think. This Assembly has members of queer tastes—personal as well as literary—like those that have met before it. By actual observation and count of the House, 62 members eat with their knives or cut the butter with them, 5 members never black their shoes, 22 wear paper collars, 49 wear glasses, 37 have red or reddish hair. Most of the members drink, a great majority either smoke or chew tobacco, very few play cards, but all draw their pay with diligence and regularity. There is one dude and one crank in the House. On the Senate side there is a trifle more style; the knife jugglers are few. Some of the more prominent Senators have been known to wear a dress coat and all pay strict attention to the polish on their shoes and their personal attire. Senator Smith, of Philadelphia, leads the fashions there, whilst Snodgrass, of Allegheny, performs the same duty for the popular branch. Taken as a whole, personally, socially and in a literary view, the Assembly is a fair reflection of the Commonwealth and the 251 members may be said to be average exponents of their respective constituencies.

AN OMNIBUS LIBRARY.—Among the many architectural changes daily altering the aspect of the metropolis must be prominently noticed the effect of the recent demolition of a block of buildings extending along the southern side of Coventry-street to the Haymarket. At the corner nearest to Leicester-square used to be an ancient hostelry known as "The White Horse," from which departed the omnibuses to Chelsea and Hammersmith. It is well within the recollection of the present writer that the fares to these suburbs were, 50 years ago, 1s. and 2s. 6d. They are now 3d. and 6d. In Cloud's Hammersmith omnibuses as late as 1833 there was a library of odd volumes provided for the amusement of the passengers on their journey, and it was in thus beguiling the time on the long jolting ride between the Coventry-street corner and Fairlawn House, Hammersmith, that a certain youth who shall be nameless first devoured the pages of "Gil Blas," "Tom Jones," and "Peregrine Pickle." When these books were dear and not easily accessible an

The New-York Times.

omnibus formed, of course, a convenient circulating library for many who had the faintest excuse for calling on anybody when the vehicle reached its destination; but, unfortunately for the faith of the proprietors in human honesty, the little bookcase they had so liberally furnished on the Monday afternoon was repeatedly found to have vacant shelves the succeeding Saturday night, and accordingly, in 1833, the local residents were informed that the omnibus library would be discontinued, and that it place would be advantageously utilized as a seat for an extra passenger who did not mind sitting with his back to the horses."—*Birmingham Daily Gazette.*

When [illegible] library which the Governors of the Southern Society are now collecting is completed, it will be a collection of the literature of the South that will have no equal in this part of the country. A list of over 5,000 books, all of them either by Southern authors or dealing with Southern subjects, has been made out. One thousand of the books have already been secured and are at the clubhouse on West Twenty-fifth Street. Some of them were very difficult to get and many of them were only found after diligent search in old Southern mansions. Others were picked up in London. The collection includes files of the London *Index* for the years of the war. It was the *Index* that represented the cause of the Confederacy in England. The library, when completed, will be a unique literary collection.

---

wick, Maine.

William B. Shaw, an historical student at Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed General Librarian for the State of New York, with headquarters in Utica.

nism. If I were a Unitarian bishop of w York State, I would invest $60,000 in Harlem Unitarian church, $50,000 in any, and give the pastors of these rches a living salary that would enable m to be able preachers and fit exponents Unitarianism; and, thus, progress would made, as it never can be by the present iggardly indifference to the extension of Unitarian principles in large cities.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOLARS.

The Functions of a Library in a Community of Scholars.

The lecture last week before the Harvard divinity students was given by Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University. His subject was "The Functions of a Library in a Community of Scholars." We give an abstract of his interesting and helpful address:

Bibliography stands to-day less for a science of a few than it does with the many for a practical knowledge of what is known, and it is becoming more and more recognized as an indispensable help in every department of intellectual activity. There are many reasons for this change. It arises in part from the clearing of the perception that it is a waste of time for a writer to attempt to compass a subject till he learn what has already been done in it. To do otherwise is as unprofitable as it is for an inventor to attempt a combination of mechanical movements for a given end until he has examined the records of the Patent Office. Again, the increase of large libraries has rendered the attainment of bibliographical knowledge far more practicable, though our libraries are still far enough from what such repositories should be, to aid a thorough student.

Although as a science, theology claims and has received more than a lion's share of books, our libraries scarcely afford a superior equipment for its study. What proportion exists between demand and supply? And how far can a special student reasonably hope not *a* library, but *libraries*, to supply that demand.

It may be almost wild work, estimating the number of volumes which have been scattered over the world since the invention of printing. A pretty careful estimate, however, thirty-five years ago, put the number of works at about three million, of which at least one-third were German. They could be safely put at two volumes, some would say three volumes, to the title; and this would give us from six to nine millions unduplicated volumes. And, if the editions were of an average of three hundred copies, we get from eighteen hundred millions to twenty-seven hundred millions of separate books to stand against waste, destruction, and time. If these figures were at all approximate, then we may safely reckon to-day ten million volumes, without duplication, as a stock of literature possibly existing in libraries, or lost in concealment throughout the civilized world. Of this, *not a fifth part finds itself in any one library*, and probably very much less than all can be found in the aggregation of the world's great libraries.

Nor was probably the world ever better proportionately supplied with books than now, though we make all allowance for the vastly greater area of knowable material in present use.

The exaggerated reports of the vast extent of ancient libraries have been subjected of late years to a close scrutiny, and it is extremely doubtful if the largest of them have exceeded the amount of matter contained in a modern library of one hundred thousand volumes; and, of the libraries of such extent, there are probably not far from one hundred in the civilized world. In comparing modern libraries, Mr. Winsor said, it is doubtful if the Vatican has to-day more printed books than the Boston Athenæum, and the Bodleian more than the library of Congress or possibly more than the aggregate collection of Harvard University. We have several larger libraries in the United States than exist in Italy.

The ten million volumes constituting first and last the world's stock of books since the invention of printing, with an average edition of three hundred,—which, I think is low,—will give an aggregate of three thousand million volumes which have been put upon the world within the last four centuries and a little more. I doubt if of these three thousand million there are to-day in the United States fifteen million of volumes outside of private houses and the book-shops, or say one-half of one per cent. of the grand total,—a striking estimate of the inadequacy of public collections of all sorts to preserve the world's [illegible]. In the fifty or sixty years which fol- come down to [illegible] comparatively small. Of this eight million, I doubt if there are more than a few thousand on this continent. The largest number in one place, so far as I know, is in the library of Union Theological Seminary in New York, where they have perhaps four or five hundred and utterly inaccessible and unusable, if they are in no better condition now than they were six or seven years ago.

Now, what is a single scholar's relation to this ten million of books? What is the specialist's relation to his department? What the theologian's to his? It was De Quincey's computation that a man most favorably situated and reaching old age could hardly hope to master more than from five to eight thousand books. There may be a diversity of opinion as to what it is to master a book. A person having to do with many books handles them as tools; and he is in a position where his acquaintance with books is continually *checked* against, as a man diminishes his bank account,—rarely, I suspect, *reads* books in the ordinary sense. He turns the pages, and tastes the quality here and there of many.

There is a skill in this sort of foraging which comes with much practice. Such a person is more inclined to read the most neglected part of a book, its preface. He finds from that what the author's purpose is. He scans closely his contents-table: he gets from that his scope and divisionary methods. He marks his opening sentences, and sees if the writer knows how to go into the core of his subject at once. He watches his foot-notes, and makes up his mind as to the way the author uses his authorities, and what they stand him instead of. He finds what he has left over in his appendices. He examines his index, and judges if there are any salient parts to his book, and what they are. I have known such a professional reader, as you may call him, to go through two or three stout octavos of an evening, ticketing away in the recesses of his memory or his note-book much that would serve him or others, as the occasion might arise, and rising from the task with a pretty clear conception of just what niche those three octavos filled in the field of knowledge. The diary of such a man showed, one year, that he had thus read, after his fashion, fifteen hundred volumes, besides giving hasty inspection of very many more. The literary luxury to such a man is the occasional chance of deliberate, leisurely *reading;* and, once a year, he would indulge in the slow devouring of a famed novel. The spending of much time on new books is certainly of doubtful value. It was one of Emerson's rules never to read any but yearlings, at least; and this philosophy is at the bottom of the rules of the great European libraries, which do not make a new work accessible under a year, after which time, there are but few comparatively to inquire for it. The calculation has been made that three-quarters of the books published are forgotten within a year, and not more than one in a hundred survives twenty years.

If we turn from the student or reader to the libraries which supply him, we shall find that not a single library is perfect enough to satisfy any considerable number of the diversity of specialists. I have had to do with some of the best equipped general libraries in this country, provided with good keys of their contents, and yet I never attempted the investigation of a single subject, in any direction, that I did not find myself at a loss both for books that *have* been and books that *have not been* written. Nevertheless, it is a common piece of foolishness for the thoughtless to wish our libraries were thinned out and reduced to what they call manageable proportions. Books are but people, *usually at their* best,—people of many ages and from many parts. The good folk who sneer at the profusion of books seldom sneer at the still greater profusion of men. Mr. Winsor said he once asked the late Mr. Winter Jones, when he was the principal librarian of the best working library in the world, the British Museum, "How often does it happen that a special student, seeking the utmost recesses of his subject, can find all he desires in your vast collection?" His answer was, "Not one such investigator in ten is satisfied."

"Because you have not the books he needs?" I asked.

"Yes, partly for that reason," he replied, "but still in good part because the books do not exist. When you have been a librarian as long as I have," he added, "you will be convinced of the exceeding small margin of the bounds of knowledge which books have as yet spread over."

Nothing is more true than that comparatively few books add much to our store of knowledge. Most books are indeed a digest made with more

---

N REGISTER.

Feb. 14. 85

The Astor Library and Its Readers.

Everybody in New York and its neighborhood has heard of the Astor Library, but there are many who do not know just what it is and what it is for. The idea even prevails in some quarters that as it is not a "popular" library, is not open to the public, and is of little real use. No idea could well be more erroneous. True, it is not a "popular" library, in the sense of containing for the most part that sort of books that most pleases the ordinary casual reader; but it is popular in the sense of being open to the people for reading and reference, and its great value becomes apparent when the character of its contents and the use to which they are put are known.

The Astor Library is primarily a library for specialists. It has two main departments: that of Science and Art, and that of History and Literature. In the former are included all works pertaining to natural history in the widest sense of that term, including geology and all its allied sciences, geography, zoology, botany, mineralogy, and so on, and also those pertaining to the human sciences—ethnology, palæontology, mythology, the the fine arts and the technical prudence, politics, medicine statistics and patents. The includes only such books

The most essential requ in any department of scie or literature is a large treating of the subject Fresh work in any of thes quiry has for an indispen knowledge of previous wo fresh original work is readers desire to become a information and instruct beyond the mere rudiment all such, a collection of b than can be found in library is necessary.

The rapidly increasing library by scholars and stu the report of the Superinte 1881 there were 44,123 51,856; in 1883, 57,613; in in 1885, 72,584—an increas one-third in the alcove stude in the general readers. Th volumes read or consu 561, of which 70,282 Department of Science 96,279 in the Department Literature. The reading cove wide range of topics. English the list in the number of 20,855; and United States his with 15,492. Natural science shows a total of about 16,000 American, classical, French an ture and philology and linguis the extent of more than 5,000 In English history over 5,000 read, and in Canadian and Fre 3,000 volumes each. More tha were read in the department of in that of Theology, 2,713 in 6,513 in Medicine and Surg Mechanics and Engineering, 1, nd over 5,000 in Patents.

These few selections from t serve at least to indicate to the g the variety of topics included wit of the library, and the extensive scholars and students in many branches of learning and resea library is one of the necessities of literary knowledge and general lea extent to which, in its quiet and u way, the Astor Library is making such a centre, is perhaps sufficiently the very number of readers that use number and character of the volu consult.

N.Y. Mail & Ex/

ADELPHIA, SUND

through the shallow water and cast their spears, but he came so fast they missed him. We thrust our revolvers through the boards and shot at them to distract their aim—the six of us on board fired their guns—we threw open the door. Featherstone was not twenty yards from us, when a man wading up to the pier held his musket leveled, and, as the boy passed, fired. Featherstone fell and rolled over and over, and we saw his white jersey stained with his blood. The man was so close that he climbed up the pier and, clubbing his musket, raised it over Featherstone's body, but at that moment Noble rushed forward, having no arm of any kind in his hand. He leaped upon the negro and threw him back into the water; then, taking up Featherstone in his arms, ran back with him into the house, and we closed and barred immediately. Featherstone had got the bullet mould safely tied into his belt. As the negroes had now slackened in their attack after the peppering they had got from the steamer, Noble set half a dozen of us immediately to light the furnace with a great heap of charcoal that stood there, ready. We set one or two of the pots in the fire, filled hem with gold pieces, blew the bellows and resently got up a white heat.

I went back to look at Featherstone. He ad fainted, and I thought he was dying, r the bullet had passed through his chest. oble was trying to bind up the wound. We uld do nothing for him though, for presly the savages came round us again, howi and shouting. We had loaded our doublerreled guns, but with powder only, havg now no balls, and set them beside us, d all we could do was to use our revolvers, t even our pistol cartridges were nearly all nt, and we only fired now and then. We v the savages creeping nearer and nearer, l just preparing to make another rush. is time we knew they must overpower l kill us. All at once there came a ut through the house. "The bul are ready!" They cooled them in ter, and presently brought them four five to each of us, still quite hot, bull pure red, shinning gold. We did not ook at them, but began to fire. very t did its work. The savages were checked, e fell back, and all ran off, while we still t on firing and doing them great harm, these golden bullets, much heavier than seemed to carry further than the leaden

All that long day we were besieged fired at by the negroes and firing at them melting the gold and turning it into bu till we had used up all the pieces that besiegers' shots had brought down, and we picked out more with the points of utlasses from the walls.

bout two hours before sunset all the ne suddenly went away into the woods. oped they had gone for good, but in an hey came back and we saw what their ow was—each man had cut a huge of brushwood bigger than himself. ame forward as before in a great half holding the faggots before them like

As they got quite near they fell on ces and crept towards us, pushing the in front of them. There was no now, for we saw no enemy at all, wall of brushwood advancing nd the bullets, of course, could it, so we reserved our fire till ke their assault

---

ITALIAN LIBRARY THEFTS.

From the London Times.

The Italian Government has offered a reward of 10,000 lire (£400) to any one giving certain information of where a codex of Cicero's "De Officiis," which has been lately stolen from the Municipal Library of Perugia, is to be found. A report is current in Rome that the stolen manuscript has been sold for 600 lire (£24) to an English or German collector. The Italian Embassies in foreign countries are authorized to pay the reward. Roman papers announce that another manuscript parchment codex has been stolen from the Casanatensian Library in Rome. It consisted of four parchment leaves, and was the "Mundus Novus" written by Amerigo Vespucci himself.

—Miss Annie T. Howard will presently begin the construction of a free public library building in New Orleans as a memorial of her father, the late Charles T. Howard. It will cost $50,000, and contain 100,000 volumes. When completed it will be placed under the charge of the Tulane University.

—Newberry gave Chicago nearly $3,0 library purposes. Enoch Pratt gave Balti wards of $1,000,000; Mrs. Fiske gave $1,500,000; Judge Packer gave Lehigh Univ $500,000; Professor Horsford gives Wellesley n $250,000.

---

material has begun operations near Joenkaeping, and is turning out paper in all degrees of excel ce, from tissue to sheets three-quarters of an in thickness.

dren on the head, and listens patiently to the complaints of ailing old people. He is a long-headed man, like Sir Walter Scott, but without his bulk of brain. He speaks in a

PUBLIC LEDGER
AND DAILY TRANSCRIPT
Philadelphia, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1886.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER Office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

"MY WORK IS FINISHED; I AM SATISFIED."

When the Enoch Pratt Public Library was opened at Baltimore last Monday its munificent founder, Mr. Pratt, closed his few remarks by saying: "My work is finished; I am satisfied." How few of the world's benefactors have the opportunity to say this? Too often they leave to others to execute their great charities, and lose the satisfaction that comes from seeing a true and full consummation of their noble purposes. But Mr. Pratt, accustomed during a long life of usefulness to guide and direct the expenditure of trust funds and estates, wisely determined to act in his own person when he made up his mind to establish a free public library in Baltimore. In doing so he gave that fortunate city not merely a million dollars in money, but the advantage of his experience in providing for the support of the library, and also of his own good sense in designing the building and arranging a plan for the proper use of the books. The "Enoch Pratt Free Public Library" has been founded on a rock, and it is this feature of the founder's generous gift, no less than his great liberality as expressed in dollars and cents, that deserves particular commendation.

The Library stands to-day with a splendid central building capable of holding 200,000 books and already containing 32,000 volumes, with four branch libraries established in various quarters of the city for the convenience of the public, and with an endowment fund producing $50,000 a year, which the city itself is bound to provide. The direction is in the hands of trustees chosen by Mr. Pratt, with power to fill vacancies in their number. They are required to report annually to the Mayor and Councils, but the city government exercises no control over the Library or its trustees. Its only connection therewith is that for a valuable consideration it has agreed to pay $50,000 a year to the trustees for the increase and maintenance of the Library. No such scheme could well have been arranged for by will. Mr. Pratt wisely prepared for it while he was still active enough to take personal direction, and, having completed the financial arrrangements so as to give the Library an assured income, he then devoted several years of intelligent thought and labor to the construction of the Library building and the perfection of plans for its free use by the people. Mr. Pratt says himself that he considers the plan for securing a fixed endowment the great feature, and the one for which he asks credit. He offered, in 1882, to establish the Library on these conditions: That he should erect, on a lot owned by him, a library building costing not less than $225,000, and convey the lot and ground to the city of Baltimore; that he should also pay to the city of Baltimore $833,333 33, if the Mayor and City Council (after being duly authorized by the Legislature) should agree by ordinance to grant and create an annuity and pay annually to the Board of Trustees fifty thousand dollars for the maintenance of the said library, with not less than four branches, to be established by the Trustees. The Legislature authorized the city to make the agreement on the exact terms proposed by Mr. Pratt, the City Council passed the required ordinances, and, to make assurance doubly sure, its action was endorsed by the people at a municipal election. The whole amount of money contributed by Mr. Pratt was $1,145,833 33. Of this amount $250,000 was expended for the Library building, $50,000 for the branches, $12,500 remains in unexpended cash, and $833,333 33 has been paid to the city for the annuity. The latter money has been so invested in the bonded debt of the city that, with its increment, it now amounts to over nine hundred thousand dollars, and produces a revenue of $38,000 per annum. The city is, of course, under obligation to make up the deficiency so as to pay the Trustees $50,000 per annum, but the Mayor expects to be able in a few years to make the fund produce all that is paid out on account of the Library. The income, it will be noticed, is based upon six per cent. interest on the cash paid by Mr. Pratt to the city, but it represents only about four and one-third per cent. on the entire gift of Mr. Pratt.

The Library building is an ornament to the city, but not unduly expensive in construction. It was carefully planned, under Mr. Pratt's direction, and more money was expended to make it secure in every way as a depository of books and convenient to the users than for ornamental purposes. The books themselves are kept in large, low-ceiled rooms, to which only the attendants are admitted. Readers and visitors are admitted to a large, well-lighted and handsome reading-room, to which attendants bring such books as may be desired. The regulations for the use of the Library are as simple as possible consistent with the free use of the books and their security. No fees are charged for the use of books taken out, but the readers are required to obtain the endorsement of some responsible person satisfactory to the Librarian before being allowed to take books from the Library or its branches.

At the opening, last Monday, there was a very distinguished company present, including visitors from other cities, who paid deserved honors to Mr. Pratt, not only for his generosity, but for the intelligence he had displayed in supplementing the work of the public schools by establishing on a firm foundation a great free public library, which should help to direct the knowledge and attainments of the youth of Baltimore to useful and honorable employment.

WHAT THEY READ.

The Literary Tastes of Some Members of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

IN THE STATE LIBRARY

Books on All Sorts of Subjects to Entertain the Statesmen.

Special Correspondence of THE TIMES.

HARRISBURG, April 3.

A good idea of the tastes of a Legislative body is to be formed by a visit to the State Library, one of the prettiest portions of the antiquated Capitol building. Its quiet corners, well-filled alcoves and bookish surroundings give it an attractive interior to the sojourner in Harrisburg, and it is here that the statesmen elected to frame laws for the common weal meet to replenish their literary exchequer or fortify their ponderous arguments that afterwards blossom in print in the *Legislative Record*. The Library is also sought for the light literature with which its shelves are well stocked and a casual examination of the register of the books taken out from time to time reveal inside peculiarities of the noted political lights who shine in the Senate and House of Representatives. The Librarian informs me that the present Assembly is, compared with its predecessors, not much given to books. Of the 52,000 volumes in the catalogue and on the shelves, there are taken out less than a dozen a week. Friday is the day the most books are demanded, as on that day there is an adjournment and members provide themselves with literature to carry them over the interval till the Monday session.

Among those I find on the list are the following: State Superintendent Higbee, who consoles himself while free from the duties of his department with conning the pages of "The Time and Place of Homer." Probably at some future day this prominent educator, like Earl Derby, will favor the public with his version of the Iliad.

Senator Agnew, of Beaver, is studying up "Stewart on Marriage and Divorce," with an eye probably to some law to curb the shocking American and Chicago custom of severing the marital contract. George McGowan, the dapper and good looking member of the House from the Second Philadelphia district, peruses "Beitel's Digest of Corporations," no doubt led to this study by his intense desire to pass the Magistrates' bill and put the wires of that greatest of corporations, the Western Union, underground. Woodward, of Centre, who lost one of his arms in a patent thresher, manages to register his name with the other for Irving's "Sketch Book," in which charming work he will find some agrestic and bucolic touches suited to so strong a champion as he is of the State Agricultural College at Bellefonte. Senator McClure, of Mercer, is intent upon the "Chronicles of Old Virginia," which if he does not find will "never tire," may himself weary of. Perhaps the Senator is seeking light on the New Virginia, under the midget politician Mahone, apropos of another legislative jaunt to Richmond. Senator Aull, of Allegheny, turns from the contemplation of relief to the workingmen by his Utopian scheme of public improvements to the perusal of "The Course of True Love," which, like legislation, does not always run smoothly, and "Bethesda."

Senator Cooper, red-headed, hopeful and fertile, is at the same time quite choice in his literary selections and is now intent upon "The Adventures of a Widow," presumably a posthumous autobiography of the late General Benjamin F. Butler, who some persons assert ran as a candidate for President in 1884. The Field Marshal also varies his political studies with the "Knickerbocker Papers," "The Poet at the Breakfast-Table" and "Oddities of Southern Life." Senator Sutton, of Montgomery—like his young friend Redding, of same county, who is in the House—reads many law books, the former being credited with Buckalew's masterly work on the Constitution frequently and the latter with "Morris on Replevin," "Benjamin on Sales," etc. President pro tem. of the Senate Mylin, farmer-like, consults "The British Reports on Fodder Crops," and is as au fait on Silo's fertilizers and grains as on points of parliamentary law. The authoritative "fodder" of the Senate, so to speak, Senator Lee, is deep in study of "The Lives of the Lord Chancellors," perhaps with an ambition some day himself to grace the woolsack in some Western county. Mr. Berry, of Forest, is reading "Called Back," although he did not take it out like a member did last year, expecting to find therein complete information in regard to "Extra Sessions." Andrew Robertson, the glass-blower and labor agitator, of Allegheny, pores over such works as "Conflict of Capital and Labor," "Progress and Poverty," relieved with the lighter volume of "A Terrible Temptation." Charles Gaine, a Democratic member from Bucks, ponders "Before the Footlights," and Fetters, in the House, from literary Chester county, seeks mental dissipation in "A Young Girl's Wooing," "The Cliff Climber," "The Bush Boys," etc. Ex-Speaker Faunce consults "Captain John Smith," induced thereto possibly by a desire to acquaint himself with the history of the F. F. V.'s, so as to make it count in certain contingencies of this Democratic administration, which may again throw the influential old mother of Presidents to the front as a State. Senator Kennedy having returned after his severe cold, tackles "The Thirty Years' War," rather an undertaking for a valetudinarian. Senator Biddis, of Pike, indulges in quasi horticultural fancies and reads "A Transplanted Rose," whilst King, his neighbor from Schuylkill, is intent upon the study of "Mason and Dixon's Line," with no designs, however, to revive it as a sectional demarcation.

Senator [illegible] is perusing [illegible] "Commentaries" [illegible] Henry C. Carey's works, fitting himself doubtless for the seat of Judge Kelley, and Osbourne, the one-armed soldier and Senator from the Third district, scans the pages of "Near to Nature's Heart." If the versatile Rufus Shapley would supplement his satire of "Solid for Mulhooley" with a political novel "Near to the People's Heart," doubtless both the above Senators would be found seeking it at the State Library. Lowry, of Indiana, the Holman of the House and chronic objector, finds solace in the leaves of such standard works as "Every Day Religion"—it being necessary to have it every day while in Harrisburg, and "Caspar, the Guacho," a fearful tale of blood and thunder. McAvoy, of the Twenty-sixth Legislative district, selects "Put Yourself in His Place," whilst J. Simpson Africa, the affable Secretary of Internal Affairs, reads "My Lady Pocahontas"—why his mind turns like Ex-Speaker Faunce in this direction is a query—and "An American Politician." Senator Upperman is a devotee of that necromantic diplomatist and statesman Disraeli, and "Lothair" and "Endymion" are registered as taken out by him. Senator Wolverton is studying "The Vetoes of 1883," in contemplation probably of use for circutation later on, when the Republican apportionment bills meet Executive antagonism.

Some of the members of the House are inclined to the wierd and gloomy. Chadwick, of Delaware, reads the "Mystery of the Docks." George Pearson, the popular House Clerk, "The Side Lights of London;" Imboden, of Lebanon, "The Mysterious Island;" Auditor General Niles is down for "The Antiquary" and "Society;" Senator Macfarlane studies "Health Reports;" Senator Henninger is reading up "Mahomet," possibly led thereto by the Anglo-Egyptian conflict, and Senator Hughes "Mr. Isaacs." The voluble Sponsler, of Perry, finds pleasure, although quite a domestic man, in "The Woman Hater." Snodgrass, chairman of appropriations, searches the *Legal Intelligencer;* Colborn, the eagle of the Alleghenies, from Somerset, never seeks the Library except for a law book, and is not a novel reader. Senator Hall is a frequent caller for law works, as is Senator Wallace when in his seat. Stubbs, in the House, from Chester county, is fond of novels. Among his entries are "Lucy Crafton" and Mrs. Skaggs' Husband." Robinson, of Delaware, reads historical and politico-historical books. Stewart, of the Eighteenth district, Philadelphia, is interested in metaphysics, apparently, and has out "Atwater's Logic." Hulings, the Venango oil broker, is reading, "Where the Battle Was Fought."

Most of the Senators and members go home over the Sunday adjournment and prepare for the week's work there, so the State Library, though an excellent one and replete with curious, as well as useful books, is not as generally used as one would think. This Assembly has members of queer tastes—personal as well as literary—like those that have met before it. By actual observation and count of the House, 62 members eat with their knives or cut the butter with them, 5 members never black their shoes, 22 wear paper collars, 49 wear glasses, 37 have red or reddish hair. Most of the members drink, a great majority either smoke or chew tobacco, very few play cards, but all draw their pay with diligence and regularity. There is one dude and one crank in the House. On the Senate side there is a trifle more style; the knife jugglers are few. Some of the more prominent Senators have been known to wear a dress coat and all pay strict attention to the polish on their shoes and their personal attire. Senator Smith, of Philadelphia, leads the fashions there, whilst Snodgrass, of Allegheny, performs the same duty for the popular branch. Taken as a whole, personally, socially and in a literary view, the Assembly is a fair reflection of the Commonwealth and the 251 members may be said to be average exponents of their respective constituencies.

AN OMNIBUS LIBRARY.—Among the many architectural changes daily altering the aspect of the metropolis must be prominently noticed the effect of the recent demolition of a block of buildings extending along the southern side of Coventry-street to the Haymarket. At the corner nearest to Leicester-square used to be an ancient hostelry known as "The White Horse," from which departed the omnibuses to Chelsea and Hammersmith. It is well within the recollection of the present writer that the fares to these suburbs were, 50 years ago, 1s. and 2s. 6d. They are now 3d. and 6d. In Cloud's Hammersmith omnibuses as late as 1832 there was a library of odd volumes provided for the amusement of the passengers on their journey, and it was in thus beguiling the time on the long jolting ride between the Coventry-street corner and Fairlawn House, Hammersmith, that a certain youth who shall be nameless first devoured the pages of "Gil Blas," "Tom Jones," and "Peregrine Pickle." When these books were dear and not easily accessible an omnibus formed, of course, a convenient circulating library for many who had the faintest excuse for calling on anybody when the vehicle reached its destination; but, unfortunately for the faith of the proprietors in human honesty, the little bookcase they had so liberally furnished on the Monday afternoon was repeatedly found to have vacant shelves the succeeding Saturday night, and accordingly, in 1833, the local residents were informed that the omnibus library would be discontinued, and that it place would be advantageously utilized as a seat for an extra passenger who did not mind sitting with his back to the horses."—*Birmingham Daily Gazette.*

The New-York Times,

---

wick, Maine.

William B. Shaw, an historical student at Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed General Librarian for the State of New York, with headquarters in Utica.

When the library which the Governors of the Southern Society are now collecting is completed, it will be a collection of the literature of the South that will have no equal in this part of the country. A list of over 5,000 books, all of them either by Southern authors or dealing with Southern subjects, has been made out. One thousand of the books have already been secured and are at the clubhouse on West Twenty-fifth Street. Some of them were very difficult to get and many of them were only found after diligent search in old Southern mansions. Others were picked up in London. The collection includes files of the London *Index* for the years of the war. It was the *Index* that represented the cause of the Confederacy in England. The library, when completed, will be a unique literary collection.

A LIBRARY'S BURIED TREASURES.

THE WANT OF A PERFECT CATALOGUE SHOWN BY THE BLUNDERS IN THAT OF THE ASTOR COLLECTION.

According to the last annual report, the Astor Library contained 192,547 books, and the value of the collection is conceded by all who are familiar with it. As a library of reference it is probably without a superior in the country. But the value of such a collection depends much upon the facilities offered for ascertaining what is contained in it. A library without a suitable catalogue is a collection of buried treasures. The original catalogue of the Astor Library, in four volumes, prepared by Dr. Cogswell, and issued in 1857-61, was a creditable work for its time, although it lacks many features which are now deemed indispensable in a catalogue. But it shows honest and faithful work, and the institution would be fortunate if the same care had been taken in the additions that have been made to it. In 1866 an analytical catalogue was issued as a fifth volume of the regular catalogue, together with a supplementary alphabetical catalogue of the accessions to the library up to that time. The work abounds in errors, and was evidently prepared by unskillful and careless hands. The card catalogue of authors and of subjects, which is a continuation of the supplementary catalogue, and which is supposed to give the additions to the library from 1866 to the present time, is open to severe criticism. Its imperfections are as annoying to the frequenter of the library as some of its blunders in classification are ludicrous. It is amusing, for instance, to find Balzac's social satire, "Physiologie du Mariage, ou Meditations de Philosophie Eclectique sur le Bonheur et le Malheur Conjugal," entered under "Medicine" in the subject catalogue, and to find the book itself in the alcove devoted to that department, on the same shelf with manuals of etherization and operative surgery, and treatises on phosphorus and club-foot.

But here is an instance of a frequent type of imperfect cataloguing which is less ridiculous but more annoying. The valuable and important papers of Gay Lussac, Arago, Louis Dumas, Chevreul, and other eminent writers on chemistry and physics, contained in the "Annales de Chimie et de Physique," are catalogued merely as "Annales de Chimie et de Physique continued to 1880." No reference is made to the authors of the various papers, and no account given of the different series extending from 1856 to 1880. A similar preference of generalities to details is noticeable in scores of cases. The card on which is written "Annales des Sciences Naturelle: Zoologie continued to 1880; Botanique continued to 1878," is no guide to the contents of the 132 volumes thus concisely catalogued. Neither does the title "Annales d'Hygiène Publique continued to 1880" throw much light upon the contents of the 54 volumes thereof published from 1856 to 1880. The same comprehensive style is adopted in the case of certain mysterious pamphlets entered as "New-York City and State—Pamphlets relating to—in box marked 'New-York City and State.'" This is a singular method of disposing of valuable contributions of papers on important subjects, and the manner in which they relate to the City or County of New-York is only to be ascertained by rumaging through the entire miscellaneous collection. The reader who is accustomed to the use of a catalogue that does not sacrifice everything to brevity will be struck with the large number of cases in which the name of a collection, but not of the compiler, is given at the Astor Library. Thus, François Guessard's "Anciens Poetes de la France" is not catalogued under the compiler's name, but merely as a collection. This, also, is the case in many instances with authors and editors. No indication is given of the authorship of William Bollan's "Ancient Right of the English Nation to the American Fishery," or of George Stephens editorial connection with the Anglo-Saxon song of the tenth or eleventh century called the "King of Birds." (*Antiq. Soc. Archælogia*, 30.)

A striking illustration of the degree of intelligence displayed in transferring the names from a title page to the catalogue may be seen in the entering of Gustav Wustmann's "Life and Works of Apelles," among the A's in the authors' card catalogue as "Apelles' Leben und Werke von Gustav Wustmann." The visitor to the library who seeks for Napoleon III.'s "Histoire de Jules Cæsar" will not find it on the card catalogue of authors, although both the French and the American editions of the work are upon the shelves. But he will be astonished to discover a clue to some heretofore unknown works by the same hand, to wit: Certain pamphlets given in the card catalogue of authors, as "Napoleon III.—Brochures Politiques, Paris, v. y., 7 vols., 8vo." Upon calling for these, and receipting for them at the Librarian's desk as "Napoleon III's. Brochures," the reader will be surprised at the contents of the seven volumes. They are made up of a variety of political pamphlets, about 100 in number, by different authors. These are specimens of the swarm of pamphlets that came out in Paris during the second Empire, some of them anonymous, and others by well-known hands. There are "Affaires de Rome," by John Lemoinne; "La Nouvelle Carte d'Europe," by Edmond About; "Garibaldi," by Alexis La Messine; "L'Excommunication," by Hippolyte Castille; "La Prusse en 1860," by Edmond About; "Le Pape et le Congres;" "Le Politique et le Droit Chrétien," and a variety of similar productions. Yet they are set down as the works of Napoleon III., and are not to be found entered under the names of their actual author. What would Mr. Winsor, or Mr. Cutter, or Mr. Noyes, or Mr. Poole, what would Dr. Cogswell himself, say to such cataloguing as this?

The public have no idea how completely books are buried in a great library without the right sort of a catalogue. But the effects of the wretched system, or want of system, which has prevailed at the Astor Library are plainly seen by all who frequent it. The number of readers in three years has decreased about 7,500. The number of alcove readers has increased over 800, and it is probable that some of the readers, despairing of finding what they seek by trusting to the catalogue, have taken this course, while the majority have simply abandoned a seemingly hopeless task. If the blunders that are so numerous in the cards which are accessible to the public are to be perpetuated in the printed catalogue now being prepared, the work will be the laughing stock of all who examine it intelligently, and will afford some striking instances of carelessness, ignorance, and stupidity.

N.Y. Times or Herald 1881 or early Jan 1882

UNWELCOME LIBRARY VISITORS.

THE CRANKS, TRAMPS, AND VANDALS WHO POORLY RETURN THEIR PRIVILEGES.

Quiet, well-behaved persons of literary tastes are not the only patrons of the City libraries. These are undoubtedly in the majority, but there are others whose almost daily presence is an annoyance to officers and visitors, a source of loss to the institutions themselves, and a cause of constant watchfulness on the part of the Police. They may be generally characterized as "cranks," thieves, and vandals. The reading-room of the Cooper Union is a popular resort for eccentric people. Admission is free, and each visitor who behaves himself is given a check and passed in. The check is returned on leaving the room. It serves as a record of the number of patrons daily, and, as it must be presented in exchange for a book, and obtained again before passing out, it is not so easy to rob the library. "Cranks" are very fond of Cooper Union, and it is estimated that most of the harmless lunatics at large in the City at one time or another have found their way there. Occasionally they become very offensive and have to be ejected. They have the pleasing peculiarity of talking to themselves with such vigor as to be heard all over the room. They take offense easily, imagine everybody is opposed to them in some way and disposed to injure them, and often get into hot water with visitors who are disposed to answer insults with a blow. Many of these "cranks" have received a good education, but trouble, disease, or dissipation has clouded their minds. They require more waiting on at the hands of the attendants than any other class, and usually have some hobby about which they read omnivorously. There used to be an old German who, enveloped in a strong odor of garlic, dropped in at the Astor Library daily. His clothes were unkempt and ragged, and his hair was dressed in the Celestial fashion. He pretended to be a titled personage of great learning, and would devour Goethe day after day and cover the tables with little pieces of dirty paper on which he scribbled mysterious characters. There was also a Portuguese who would call for volumes of Lope de Vega every day and pore over only a single page in the course of hours. The genial librarian considers such people "excrescences on the tree of knowledge."

Whenever a storm arises there is a lively rush of curious persons to the hospitable precincts of Cooper Union. The reading-room affords shelter from the rain or snow, and wanderers who cannot read a line bend over the printed page as studiously as more fortunate visitors. Tramps leave the shelter late in the afternoon in time to look around for the night's lodging. They are fond of the more obscure portions of the room, where a sly nap may perhaps be indulged in without discovery. Sleeping in the reading-room, however, is not confined to tramps, and among the better classes, it is asserted, most of these offenders are Germans. The national beverage cannot be alone to blame, as young German boys have been observed to have the same weakness. When the sleepers are awakened, they will invariably maintain with solemn earnestness that they "only closed their eyes for a moment." Drunken men are drawn as by a magnet to Cooper Union, and are frequently caught crawling up stairs. The two or three hundred ladies who visit the Union daily are the subjects of special attention from the officer on duty. Well-dressed young men, of the animated bouquet pattern, lounge through the halls, but the officer declares that no scientific "mashing" shall take place if he can prevent it. Hat and coat thieves stroll in the library at leisure. Soft hats that can be stowed away easily have a charm for them.

Vandals who mutilate books, pamphlets, and newspapers have always been the curse of the City libraries, and they seem to increase with the number of patrons. No effective method of detection has been devised. The Mercantile Library Association has long offered a reward of $50 for each case of detection, but not a penny has been spent in this direction. Still the mutilations continue. A TIMES reporter was shown volumes of Knight's edition of Shakespeare in which dozens of pages and pictures were cut out bodily. The edition is valuable and to duplicate it will demand a large expenditure. Editions of Appletons' Cyclopedia were badly mutilated. A favorite subject for the vandals is Knight's Mechanical Dictionary, many of whose illustrations have been torn or cut out. Librarians do not ascribe these mutilations to malice. Readers have only in view their own convenience. It is so much easier to cut out a favorite passage in a volume than to copy it, and if a person is making a collection of pictures, why, of course, one has no other resource than to cut out a pleasing illustration. Many valuable books are defaced in the City libraries by boys. Male persons in illustrated editions are transformed into women, and women are decorated with mustaches, silk hats, and other masculine appendages. The comments of readers are often found on the margins of the choicest volumes, and are usually characterized more by conceit than wisdom. The Mercantile Library officers complain that in some of their works on the drama entire plays are cut out by the vandals. A few years ago a Frenchman visited the Astor Library and, volume by volume, received the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and mutilated the whole 40 volumes, valued at $300. He was arrested and convicted, but got off with a fine of only $10. His defense was that he was "not acquainted with the customs of the country," but his act was considered purely malicious. The Astor Library suffers most from those who clip out portions of bound newspaper files. The officer in charge of the room is not successful in detecting the offenders. The book mutilations continue, although the volumes are scanned before they are given out and when they are returned. To prevent larceny, a porter stands guard at the foot of the stairs and narrowly inspects every visitor as he leaves the building to see if he has any stray volumes concealed about his person. As this library is free to the whole City of New-York, it is, perhaps, remarkable that mutilations and larceny of books are not more frequent.

WISHED TO BUY

Ledger 1885

INFERNAL MACHINE IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 23.—The detectives at police headquarters were thoroughly excited to-day over the discovery of a box of dynamite and an infernal machine among the stolen effects of J. C. Talbert, recently an employé in the Chicago Public Library. It was found that Talbert had stolen and secreted at his house nearly 3000 volumes, which he had systematically removed from the library. These were removed to police headquarters this morning, and this afternoon, among the books was discovered a box containing the explosives.

The box was about a foot long and six inches deep. Inside it was a lot of sawdust which was packed around a nickel plated revolver. The sawdust was saturated with glycerine. A little crank made of thick wire was attached to the outside of the box. Everybody stood at a long speaking distance while the machine was being taken apart. On the floor lay a box about twice the size of the other.

No one would handle the contents, but Detective Rohan carefully lifted the lid from it. On the lid was a label which proclaimed that the box contained dynamite. The packages of the explosive were about a dozen in number, as far as can be discovered by a bird's-eye view of them. They are about six inches long and carefully wrapped up.

The alleged explosive was discovered this morning in the pile of almost 3000 books, which are said to have been stolen from the Public Library by Talbert. The fact that some stealing was going on from the institution was published a few days ago. Search warrants were issued, and when the case was investigated Talbert was arrested. He is a student at the Chicago Medical College. He acknowledged that for fifteen months he had been stealing books from the library. He selected only the most valuable works, such as medical and scientific books.

Under pressure Talbert told the officers that the books were hid in the barn of his brother-in-law, August Liebrich, 3068 Lyman street. The detectives went to the place last night and found over 3000 volumes. Six patrol wagons were called into requisition and the books removed to the Central Station.

Detective Horace Elliott was one of the officers. "Why," he said, this morning, "I happened to be looking over the books and found the box. I carelessly pitched it to one side, but finally I thought I would ask Talbert about it. He told me that he had been making experiments with dynamite and that was the substance in the box. We don't believe this story, and are inclined to believe that he had prepared the machine to blow himself up when the thefts were discovered."

Over a dozen detectives have been sent out to investigate the case. It is intimated that a conspiracy to rob the library will be discovered. A few days ago Talbert's roommate, David McLean, was arrested in connection with the case, but was let go subsequently.

Detective Tiernay, who is working on the case, said that it had been discovered that Talbert had given a wrong name. He alleged that his real name was Otto Funk, and that he had been a student of the Jesuit College, on Twelfth street. It was also said that Funk has three sisters and a father living on the West Side. Officers were sent out this morning to look up his former record.

"Funk ought to be hung," said Lieutenant Kipley this afternoon. "When he was arrested he saw the officers take that box from his room. He deliberately let them handle it, saw it thrown into a patrol wagon, and when it arrived at the office I tossed it around as I would a box of soap. As far as we can learn, the smaller box, which contained the revolver, could have blown us into smithereens. All that was needed to make the substance explode was to turn the little crank around about an inch. This would have released a nail which held up the trigger of the revolver in the box. The cartridge would have been exploded, the explosives would have been ignited and the whole city hall would have been in ruins. I tremble when I think of what might have happened to ourselves."

Librarian Poole said that he discovered that books were being taken from the library over two months ago. He notified the Board of Directors, and a quiet investigation has been going on ever since. Mr. Poole declared that, as far as could be found out, no employé of the library could be implicated in the thefts. He found out, however, that Funk, who had formerly been employed in the library, was in the habit of coming to the place on Sunday and taking out books. He had a talk with the prisoner last night, and found that Funk was inclined to evade the subject of his crime. Evidence has been discovered, however, that Funk obliterated the private marks of the Library from the books taken by means of a preparation of chlorine. So skillful was he, that it is only experts that can discover the erasures. Mr. Poole and the detectives express the opinion that Funk is not in his right mind, though they do not explain how a "crank," as they call him, could be so sharp at stealing. The rumor was started that Funk was in some way connected with the Socialists, but this is not believed.

---

the purpose of making

—It is probable that Mr. Andrew Carnegie's offer of $250,000 for a public library in Pittsburg will be accepted and the terms complied with by that city.

—The Ottoman Government, having inquired into the management of the mosque libraries, has now instituted an Ottoman Public Library, which is being housed in buildings adjoining the mosque of Sultan Bayazid. With this institution is to be combined the library of the Ministry of Public Instruction. Great efforts are being made to obtain donations from private libraries

12/82

There is some probability that the Lenox and Astor libraries will be thrown open to the public in the evenings until 10 o'clock during the coming winter. The Metropolitan Museum of Art also will be likely to adopt the same rule. Under present arrangements these institutions are practically inaccessible to people whose business avocations prevent visits in the day time. The Directors have long resisted appeals of the kind, chiefly on the plea of extra expense, but the pressure in favor of the change, it would appear, is now too strong and persistent to be resisted. Meanwhile a free library for working people, at 18 East Sixteenth street, opens its door on Wednesday next. It has nearly seventy thousand volumes on its shelves, and new publications are to be added as fast as they are issued. The institution is free to all girls and women employed in any legitimate business, and to males similarly employed, if under 18 years of age. In addition to the library there is a free reading room, with all the popular magazines and newspapers, together with a reference library of some 5000 volumes.

The "new dust" swindlers, it would ap-

Ledger 1885

The Congregationalist
AND
BOSTON RECORDER.
BOSTON, THURSDAY, DEC. 31, 1885.

THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY IN CHICAGO.

BY W. F. POOLE, LL.D.

The magnificent legacy of $3,000,000 for the establishment and support of a free public library, in the city of Chicago, became available by the death of Mrs. Julia Newberry, the widow of the testator, in Paris, on the 9th of December. This is the largest foundation for a free library ever made in this or any other country, and the establishment of such an institution is more a matter of national than of local importance. To scholars and lovers of choice books which are rarely seen in this country it will be cheering information to learn that the new institution with such large means is, by the conditions of the legacy, to be simply and strictly a *library*; and hence will be without the appendages of a picture gallery, an art school, a musical college, and courses of lectures, which were attached to Mr. George Peabody's donation to Baltimore, and which have so minimized the income of each department that neither the library nor any of the appendages have become, or can become, pre-eminent, or anything more than of local interest. In expending the income, and such part of the principal as they may think proper, the trustees are authorized "to purchase and procure books, maps and charts, and all such other articles and things as they may deem proper *for a library*, and for extending and increasing such library." The only other restrictive condition attached to the legacy is that the library shall be in that portion of the city known as the "North Division," or, in common parlance, the "North Side."

The testator wisely placed the organization and entire management of this great institution, as well as the distribution of his whole estate, in the hands of only two trustees, instead of a numerous board, among whom differences of opinion in its administration might arise. To these trustees he gave very large discretionary powers, among which was that of choosing their own successors. He was judicious, also, in selecting men for trustees who were eminently qualified for the duty, and in whom the public have entire confidence. The trustees he named in his will were Judge Mark Skinner and Mr. E. W. Blatchford. Judge Skinner, in 1874, being about to make a prolonged visit to Europe, resigned, and Mr. William H. Bradley was appointed to fill the vacancy. Although Mr. Newberry and his family were in their church relations Episcopalians, Judge Skinner is a Presbyterian, and Mr. Blatchford and Mr. Bradley are leading members of the New England (Congregational) Church, and perhaps the most efficient supporters of what may be called "New England thought" in the North-west. Mr. Blatchford is known to the readers of the *Congregationalist* as the vice-president of the American Board of Foreign Missions, and a large contributor to its funds. The character of the trustees is a sure guaranty that the Newberry Library of Chicago will, under their management, serve the noblest ends.

Although established as a free public library, the new institution will have no official connection with, nor will it supplant the work or functions of, the Chicago Public Library. The latter is a municipal institution, with 115,000 volumes, and is supported by local taxation. Both are needed in a city which has now 700,000 inhabitants, and will soon have a million. The Public Library, now twelve years old, and with an annual income of $70,000, will go on giving out books for home use, establishing branch libraries and meeting the wants of the people at large. The trustees of the Newberry Library have not yet announced their plans, and, indeed, since the death of Mrs. Newberry, have not had time to form them; yet there is a feeling on the part of the public that the library will meet the higher wants of scholars, literary and scientific students—of those from abroad as well as of those resident in the city. The possibilities as to what a $3,000,000 fund may do in supplying the neglected wants of American scholarship will be an inspiration to every student in the land.

The Astor Library, as to its origin and purposes, is the one with which the Newberry Library will naturally be compared; and the comparison will show the enormous disproportion in their financial resources. John Jacob Astor died in March, 1848, and by his will devoted $400,000 to the foundation of the Astor Library—naming $75,000 for the erection of a building, $120,000 for the purchase of books, and $25,000 for the purchase of a site. A permanent fund of $180,000 remained after these expenditures, for the support of the library. In 1855 his son, Mr. William B. Astor, gave an adjoining lot of land, money for the erection of another building, and a collection of books, the whole of his expenditures amounting to $300,000. The foundation, therefore, of the Astor Library, not including interest, was and is $700,000, against the $3,000,000 fund of the Newberry Library.

Mr. Walter L. Newberry, the testator, came from Detroit, Mich., in 1834, when Chicago was a village having 3,000 inhabitants. Three years later a city government was organized, and the first census then taken showed a population of 4,170. Mr. Newberry brought with him some ready money and invested it in forty acres on the "North Side," which is now the choicest residence property in the city. The limits of the purchase, by modern bounds, are Chicago Avenue on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, Kinzie St. on the south (within one block of the river), and Franklin St. on the west. Much of this property, covered with expensive buildings and constantly rising in value, is still held by the trustees of the Newberry estate. Mr. Newberry died in November, 1868, leaving a widow, two young unmarried daughters, and an estate of several millions. His will provided for the widow an annuity in lieu of dower, and left the bulk of the estate to his daughters, and, if they had children, to their issue. If one daughter should die without issue, the other daughter was to take the whole estate. If both daughters died without issue, then, "immediately after the decease of my wife," his trustees were to divide the estate into two equal shares, "my said trustees being the sole judges of the equality and correctness of such division," and to distribute one share among the surviving descendants of his brothers and sisters, *per stirpes*, and not *per capita*. The other share was to be applied to the founding of a free public library, as already described. The elder daughter died in 1874, and the younger in 1876, both unmarried, and the contingency as to a public library took effect.

The widow, in lieu of the provision made for her in the will, elected to take her right of dower, and the trustees settled with her on this basi She then went abroad, and resided Paris and other parts of the Con nent. Soon after the death of t younger daughter, the question w raised by the heirs in the courts as the legal time for the distribution of the estate, and the interpretation of the clause in the will, "immediately after the decease of my wife." Did it mean the actual physical decease of the wife, or did it mean the termination of her legal and civil relations to the estate, to which the principle in law called "acceleration" would apply? In the lower courts a decision was given in favor of the latter view, which, if sustained, would have brought on the immediate distribution of the estate. An appeal being taken to the Supreme Court, the decision was reversed by a very close vote of the judges. A petition for a rehearing was filed, and the case was again tried, the best legal talent in the State being employed, and the court reaffirmed its former decision. The distribution was therefore postponed until the actual decease of Mrs. Newberry, which has now occurred.

The precise value of the estate will not be known until the appraisement now in progress is completed. Some very wild statements of its value have appeared in print, and for correcting these reports, one who is in a position to know its value has stated that his estimate is $6,000,000.

Chicago Public Library.

—Among the many generous donations to Iowa College, at Grinnell, Iowa, since the destruction of its buildings by the cyclone of last June, none is more highly appreciated than the gift of hundreds of volumes of standard books, by the various prominent publishing houses of the United States. The institution has thus been enabled to begin work again with a fine nucleus for a library to replace the one that was destroyed.

Preside.
nts, Frank P. Darling
Gray; Secretary, H. P. Wo
L. Cary Carver.

NEW LIBRARY BUILDING.

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

WILMINGTON, Del., March 30.—Shields Library Association to-day bought a lot on Sixth street, between Orange and Tatnall, 32 by 80 feet 5 inches, for $3200. A $6000 hall is to be erected on the site.

---

to be kept tightly closed, the way of the way
in Cincinnati on Sunday will henceforth be hard.

◆

A good suggestion is made by Mr. W. A. Bardwell, of the Brooklyn Library, in an interview printed in "The Brooklyn Standard-Union." "I think," says the librarian, "that a large and growing out-of-town subscription to the library could be secured if Congress would amend the postal laws, permitting library books to go through the mails at the rate of one cent a pound." As Mr. Bardwell remarks, the tendency of such an arrangement would be to encourage the reading of good literature and to withdraw patronage from the rubbish that is largely bought because it is cheap. The patrons of all libraries would feel the benefit of such a law, especially when absent from their homes during the summer. The privilege could not easily be abused, as library books are always conspicuously labelled. If a book could be obtained from a public library for a cent or two in postage and returned for the same trifling sum, there is no doubt that the educational influence of these institutions would be sensibly extended.

◆

The New-York Times,

THE FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

INTERESTING FEATURES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THAT INSTITUTION.

The third annual report of the New-York Free Circulating Library, which was incorporated March 15, 1880, has just been issued, and contains some interesting statements concerning the work and increasing efficiency of the institution. Donations have been received which have enabled the Trustees to purchase a building in Bond-street that is now being altered to make it suitable for library purposes. Many books have been added to the library by special donations, and a large number of valuable volumes have been received as gifts. Among the latter are more than a thousand volumes in German, admirably selected, which are already in extensive circulation. Another gratifying feature which is reported is the creation of a special fund under the name of the "woman's fund," the income of which is to be devoted as far as possible to the employment of women in the library. About 5,000 persons have made use of the books in the library during the year. To extend this privilege of free reading branch establishments are needed, and the Trustees believe that at least one such branch will be founded during the present year. There are now 7,206 volumes in the library. The additions during the year numbered 2,115, of which 1,420 were gifts and 695 purchased volumes. The latter were mainly histories, biographies, and travels. The circulation for the year ending Nov. 1, 1882, amounted to 71,840 volumes, or an average of 202 per day. The largest circulation for a month was in April, when 6,868 books were read. The smallest was in September, when there were only 4,868. As regards the classes of books called for, the percentages were: Fiction, 68; history, biography, and travel, 14; foreign books, 6; science and art, 5, and miscellaneous, 7. It is remarked as to these figures that the percentage of fiction, although increased a little beyond that previously reported, does not reach the lowest percentage—69—known elsewhere in similar libraries. Only 11 volumes were lost during the year, which is justly regarded as speaking well for the care and honesty of the readers, and for the interest taken in the enterprise.

One of the most encouraging signs is the attendance in the reading-room, which has nearly doubled, there having been 18,603 readers during the 356 days on which the rooms were opened. Of the readers, 3,791 were adults and 14,812 minors. They called for 17,991 periodicals, and their selections ran largely in favor of the best magazines and weeklies. The use of the reading-room and library on Sundays, when they were open between the hours of 4 and 9 P. M., has been such as to justify the wisdom of the Trustees in the matter. There were 2,504 readers for 50 Sundays, and more would doubtless have come if there had been room for them. The whole number of applicants since the library opened is 10,122, of whom 3,640 came during the past year. "The character of the books taken out," reports the Librarian, "is much higher than formerly. Whenever it can be done, suggestions are given and selections are often made by the Librarian or assistants. The boys especially are more and more guided by us in their reading." With increased facilities it is confidently hoped that the usefulness of this worthy institution will be proportionately increased, and the beneficence of New-Yorkers is relied on for aid in the matter. The officers of the library are: President—Mr. Henry E. Pellew; Vice-Presidents — Mr. B. H. Field, Mr. F. W. Stevens, Mrs. F. C. Barlow, and Mrs. S. P. Blagden; Treasurer—Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, No. 23 Wall-street; Secretary—Mr. William Greenough; Executive Committee—Mr. H. E. Pellew, Mr. Frederick W. Whitridge, Mr. J. P. Morgan, Mr. Robert Hoe, Jr., Mr. William Greenough, Mrs. H. E. Howland, Mr. William W. Appleton, Mrs. J. F. Kernochan, and Miss A. Redmond; Board of Trustees—Mr. H. E. Pellew, Mr. B. H. Field, Mrs. F. C. Barlow, Mr. F. W. Stevens, Mrs. J. F. Kernochan, Miss Annie Redmond, Mr. Temple Prime, Mr. W. W. Appleton, Mrs. W. H. Draper, Mr. Robert Hoe, Jr., Mrs. Henry E. Howland, Mr. J. Frederic Kernochan, Mrs. Samuel P. Blagden, Miss Amy Townsend, Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Charles Lanier, Mr. Joseph W. Drexel, Mr. Frederick W. Whitridge, Mr. William Greenough, Mr. Philip Schuyler, and Mrs. F. R. Jones.

James Page Library Company.

The James Page Library Company yesterday celebrated the forty-seventh anniversary of its organization, at 1019 North Second street. Instrumental and vocal music was rendered, and speeches were made by John H. Fow and George Morgan. The Committee of Arrangements was: H. J. Thomas, Chairman; Hugh Kenney; Wm. McKeon, Henry Eisenbrown and John J. McCaffrey. Joel E. James is the President of the company.

....Of 700 boys and girls who drew books from the library of the College Settlement in Rivington street last year only two had American parents.—*New York World.*

By the death of Mrs. Newberry the city of Chicago secures the greatest endowment for a public library that any American city holds. The late Walter L. Newberry was one of the early settlers of Chicago, who "entered" a large tract of land on the north side, and had the sagacity or the inertia to hold on to a large part of it through all periods of panic as well as through all periods of speculation. He died on board a steamer between Liverpool and New York some seventeen years since, leaving a widow and two daughters. He left a will giving one half of his estate for the purposes of a public library to be situated in the north division of Chicago, provided his daughters should die without issue, but this provision of the will was not to be executed until after his wife's death. The two daughters died without issue, and now the death of the widow is announced by a cable telegram from Paris. The portion of the estate which falls to the public library is estimated at $2,500,000. When Mr. Newberry died there seemed to be slight chances that the city would ever get this benefaction. The two daughters, being attractive as well as rich, were much exposed to the risk of being married and becoming the mothers of families, the more especially as one provision of the Newberry will left the bulk of the estate to the daughter who should first be the mother of a male child, and should give him the name of Walter Newberry. Both daughters perished of consumption a few years after the death of the father. So Chicago now comes by her own—in part—for the advance in real estate which has made this great benefaction possible might equitably be claimed as a public dowry. Certainly Mr. Newberry did very little to earn $5,000,000, unless we consider it earning to deny one's self the luxuries and even the comforts which wealth puts in one's reach. He was an extremely penurious man, and one of the least public-spirited of all the wealthy men upon whom the unexampled growth of Chicago has heaped great riches. But the whirligig of time has not only given Chicago the means for establishing the greatest public library in the land, but has rescued the name of Walter Newberry from oblivion and inscribed it among those of the benefactors of the human race.

---

ven, and to be paid immediately upon the probate of the will, and all his horses, carriages, furniture, pictures, plate, china, works of art, and library "other than the musical library," go to her. The title of Mrs. Drexel to property in her name purchased by the testator is confirmed to her as absolute owner in lieu of dower. The following disposal is made of the "musical library:" "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Lenox Library in the city of New York all that portion of my library which consists of works relating to the science of music; also all musical compositions and treatises or other works on musical subjects. This gift is made upon the express condition that the said Trustees of the Lenox Library shall sign and deliver to my executors hereinafter named a written acceptance of the said portion of my library and an agreement to keep the same separated from all other books or collections of books and to preserve the same in separate shelves or cases to be labelled 'Drexel Musical Library.' In case said Trustees of the Lenox Library shall not accept, or if accepted, shall not maintain, the said portion of my library in the manner indicated, then I give and bequeath the same on the same condition to the Astor Library in the city of New York; and should the Astor Library refuse to accept the same, or, having accepted, neglect or omit to maintain the same separately from other books and in the manner hereinbefore specified, then I give and bequeath the said portion of my library to the Mercantile Library Company of the city of Philadelphia." To the executors is given in trust all real estate, excepting such as is situated in the State of Pennsylvania, of which he died seized. One-third of the income is to go to Mrs. Drexel for life

---

SOCIALIST FAMILY FEUD.

A FIGHT WHICH NEARLY DESTROYED THE WORKINGMEN'S FREE LIBRARY.

There is a split in the Socialistic Labor Party in the Seventh District which, while insignificant in itself and due entirely to easily explainable causes, may possibly lead to a permanent disruption between the contending elements. The breach was brought to public notice yesterday when the suit of McManus & Fenelon, landlords of 16 Clinton-place, against Mrs. Cynthia Leonard and Miss Anna P. Johnson was heard by Justice Deane in the Jefferson Market Civil Court. This action was brought for the purpose of compelling the defendants, representing the Workingmen's Free Reading Room and Library, to vacate their rooms in the building.

Just after the organization of the Socialistic Labor Party, a little over two years ago, it was decided that a workingmen's library would serve as a means for collecting recruits, as well as for keeping the members more closely together. Mrs. Cynthia Leonard, the mother of Lillian Russell, has identified herself with the movement, and was chosen a committee of one to perfect plans for the organization of such a library as was projected. She enlisted the assistance of Miss Anna P. Johnson, and those ladies procured the required funds by soliciting subscriptions. After the library had became an established institution, a large number of volumes having been obtained by purchase, by gifts, and by conditional loans, a regular library committee was appointed, with Mrs. Leonard as Chairman. A suite of rooms was rented, and Miss Johnson was appointed librarian at a salary of $3 per week for the first six months and $5 per week thereafter. According to Mrs. Leonard and Miss Johnson, the Socialistic Labor Party agreed to pay the rent of the library and the salary of the librarian, but this expense has had to be borne by the ladies individually, or has been paid by such subscriptions as could be secured.

When the Progressive Labor Party was formed some months ago it divided the Socialistic element into George and anti-George factions, and great bitterness was engendered by the political discussions. The anti-George faction declared that Mrs. Leonard and Miss Johnson, who headed the George people, were trying to run the organization in the interests of the woman suffragists, and those ladies accuse Col. Richard J. Hinton and others of insulting and abusive conduct. The breach grew wider until, as alleged, open warfare was threatened. These threats took an effective form when the landlords notified Mrs. Leonard and Miss Johnson to vacate the premises. Those ladies, backed by their Socialistic supporters, refused to vacate, and suit was brought to dispossess them. After hearing the evidence Justice Deane dismissed the case on the ground that the library had a right to the premises until May 1 if its officers paid the rent. As the rent was offered in court, it settled the question of occupancy until the 1st of May. In the meantime the dissatisfied faction had, it is alleged, persuaded the landlords that the occupants of the library were usurpers, and the landlords, acting upon this assurance, tore down the bookshelves, piled the books in the middle of the room, and created disorder generally. Then the anti-George people engaged another hall for their meetings, and separated finally from the library organization, which some time before had become separately incorporated.

As the matter now stands two-thirds of the Socialistic Labor Party in the Seventh District have procured new quarters and announced an independent organization, while the remaining third, headed by Mrs. Leonard, Miss Johnson, and Henry Nichols, the Nassau-street broker, retain the library rooms, books, and furniture, and will continue the existence of the Workingmen's Free Reading Room and Library, to be supported by private funds or by subscription. The story that Mrs. Leonard broke open the door of the library with an axe and attempted to assault one of the landlords after the door had been locked by the landlords is denied by Mrs. Leonard, who says that the door was merely forced open by a man whom she engaged for the purpose. The parties now in possession of the library declare that the opposing Socialists will not again be allowed to enter the rooms, and that a suit will be brought against the landlords for the damages to the furniture and books.

---

clothing.

THE PRATT LIBRARIES.

They are Visited by Andrew Carnegie—Notes for Future Reference—A Dinner Party.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 20.—Mr. Enoch Pratt, the well-known philanthropist of this city, drove to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad station, this afternoon, and met Mr. Andrew Carnegie, whom Mr. Pratt styles "the greatest philanthropist of the age." The two gentlemen were then taken to the various branches of the Pratt Free Library, and afterwards to the parent library. Mr. Carnegie was greatly interested in all that he saw and heard of their workings, and made some notes for future use. In the evening Mr. Pratt gave a dinner party in honor of Mr. Carnegie.

There were present to meet the chief guest of the evening ex-United States Senator Henry G. Davis, Colonel Walter S. Franklin, Dr. L. H. Stiner, Professor N. H. Norrison, and Messrs. James A. Gary, Henry Jones, John Gill, J. A. Hambleton, W. N. Speare and D. L. Bartlett. There were no speeches. The visit of Mr. Carnegie is without significance. He expressed a wish to Mr. Pratt, when that gentleman visited Pittsburg to assist at the opening of the Carnegie Free Library, to see the Pratt libraries in Baltimore, and to the fulfillment of that desire is due the presence of Mr. Carnegie in Baltimore to-day. Mr. Enoch Pratt is related to the Mr. Pratt who is so well known in Brooklyn for his munificent gifts of a library and training school to that

VANDALS IN A LIBRARY.

PARIS, Aug. 19.—Although many years
have passed since its occurrence, American
bibliophiles must remember the "Libri
incident"—the story of that singular guard-
an of public libraries who robbed almost
very institution intrusted to his surveil-
ance and looted the French Bibliothèque
mpériale of a number of rare works,
hich still are missing from its shelves.
t made an immense sensation at the time
mong savants, who were divided into two
amps, one pro, the other contra, for the
ount was a personage with influential
ackers in high places, who throughout
uck to his cause manfully, and Prosper
érimée was imprisoned at Saint Pélagie
r a fortnight for his passionate vindica-
n of the patrician thief, all of which I
ention by way of introduction to the
count of a similar larceny recently
ought to light somewhat curiously
Spain, where one of the great
blic libraries was ruthlessly plundered
d its valuable contents sold clandestine-
to a Parisian amateur. There is, how-
er, a certain difference between the two
airs. Spaniards are too busy about poli-
s to care much what becomes of musty
nes, and so have not been at all exer-
ed over their dispersion, and the Iberian
ems to be an ingenuous creature who
l not know so well as the Italian the
lue of his booty; unlike the Count, he
d not learned how to make $6,000 per
num with his pickings and stealings.
e books came to France quite by acci-
nt; they have been sold off here for a
re song, as though they were so much
ste paper, and collectors who are ever
the watch for bargains, diligent seek-
s who complain that nothing is left to
found, have been ignorant of the fact
at for months past has been offered for
xt to nothing a collection of volumes
ne of them unique and of which in the
s of the confirmed bibliomaniac one
gle copy represents a value which ex-
ds the salary for a year of a chief clerk
he Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

he library of Seville was founded by
nando Columbus, a son of the cele-
ted navigator, and, like his illustrious
, a great traveler, only his aim was the
overy of rare and curious books in-
d of new worlds, and to accomplish
ch he visited the Low Countries,
nce, and England, and rummaged
y nook and corner of the Peninsula
ing the wherewithal to fill his library,
cially purchasing the romaunts of
iæval chivalry, monkish mysteries,
s and ballads where good King Ar-
's doings are told of, facetiæ, tales of
ery, and treatises on witchcraft, get-
together between 15,000 and 20,000 vol-
s and manuscripts all of which he be-
thed to his grandnephew Luis Co-
bus, with the obligation on his part to
d 100,000 maravedis annually for the
ing in good order of his cherished
ction. But Don Luis was no
man: he was a backsliding
gamist, if that be the qualifica-
of an individual who had
wives living at the same time, a de-
hee who cared more for women,
, cards, and dice than for reading, and
e collection was turned over to the
ter of Seville's Cathedral, designated
ernando as second legatee, in whose
ssion it was much as pearls are
thrown to swine, Andalusian monks
g naught in common with the Bene-
es. They were quite as indifferent to
precious works as Don Luis, and so
pillage was unnoticed. First, King
pe II. abstracted a lot of rare parch-
; then the courtiers imitated their
ign's example, and finally, when the
librarian died of the plague in 1709,
keys of the Columbus collec-
were given to the scavengers and sweepers of the cathedral, who used to stow away in the library their brooms and torches, while proletarian urchins adopted the room as their playground, amusing themselves especially with tearing out and defacing the prints and miniatures and, among other acts of vandalism, destroying three folios of inestimable value in consequence of marginal notes that had been traced by the illustrious Christopher himself. Early in the present century, however, an effort was made to restore the Columbus library by the purchase of such old books as could be picked up in garrets or from bookstalls and the appointment of a custodian a little less careless than his predecessors, and in 1870 the catalogue of the library contained the names of 34,000 volumes and 16,000 manuscripts. A great many of these were mere waifs and strays, as I have mentioned, but among the number were a few relics of the original collection, thrown in pellmell with the trash, without any special external sign by which to distinguish them, but easily recognizable when opened, as the fastidious Fernando had always been in the habit of inscribing upon the fly-leaf and at the foot of the last page of each new acquisition the date, the price paid, and the place where it was purchased, with, quite frequently, some personal observations and criticisms.

Now what really happened in the Chapter of Seville last Autumn no one rightly knows. Did the earthquakes that then split the Giralda from its base to its summit also make a breach in the walls of its library through which thieves could pass? Did these earthquakes shake all the books into the street? I repeat, no one can explain, but certain is it that very shortly afterward a lot of Fernando Columbus's volumes reached Paris. The two first consignments came here under rather curious circumstances. A well known bric-à-brac maniac, whose hotel stands not far from the avenue leading to the Bois de Boulogne, received from his Spanish correspondent several cases of magnificent ancient tapestry, and in the corners of those boxes, as though intended to keep their contents snugly packed, were stowed away a great number of admirable manuscripts of the fifteenth century, with gothic *plaquettes* of wonderful beauty. Unfortunately, Monsieur X., who, like most parvenus, estimates books according to the richness of their binding, was unable to appreciate the value of this treasure trove, and so hastened to dispose of it as waste paper to a vendor of second-hand literature, and he again, though attaching a trifle more importance to his purchase than did the seller, was almost as ignorant, as you may judge from a single example: The sale for $24 of a copy of Louise Labbé's works which one fortnight later an enlightened amateur eagerly snapped up for 6,000f. A few transactions of this kind are as profitable as a first prize in a lottery, but the librarian had lost his ticket. Subsequent to this, yet not before he had gotten rid of many of his gems, the dealer drew up a catalogue, which, as it merits special mention in the history of curious and precious books to be found in Paris, I shall quote from for the benefit of any of your readers who may have leanings toward bibliomania:

LE CHEVALIER AUS DAMES: Mets: Hocheede. Small quarto, gothic. A. D. 1516.

FELATBU[illegible] WUNDTARTZNEY. Strasburg. A. D. 15[illegible] In folio, with anatomical plates.

LES FAICTS ET PROUESSES DU PUISSANT HECTOR. Paris: Ph. Le Noir, s. d. Small in 4to, gothic.

L'HYSTOIRE ET CRONIQUE DU NOBLE ET VAILLANT BAUDOIN COMTE DE FLANDRES LEQUEL EPOUSA LE DYABLE. Lyon: Arnoullet, s. d. Small in 14o, gothic.

LA MARESCHALLERIE DE LAURENS RUSE, TRANSLATEE DU LATIN EN FRANCOYS. Paris: Wechel. A. D. 1533. In folio, gothic.

LA THOYSON DOR, COMPOSEE PAR REVEREND PERE LE DIEU, GUILLAUME. In folio, gothic. Vol. I. Paris. Vol. II. Troyes. Nicholas Le Rouge. A. D. 1530.

SENSUYT UNG TRES BEAU ET ESCELLENT ROMANT NOMME JOHAN DE PARIS. Lyon: Cl. Mourry, s. d. Small gothic in 8vo, with woodcuts.

LES GRANDES PROUESSES DU TRES VAILLANT CHEVALIER TRISTAN. Paris. A. D. 1533. In folio, gothic.

Even at public auction these books would fetch at least 30,000f. to 40,000f., to judge from the price (11,000f.) paid for a copy, then supposed to be unique, of the "Chevalier aus Dames" at the sale of M. Didot's collection in 1878, but the dealer, evidently ignorant of the existence of the famous Brunet, estimated the entire lot at 650f., and, stranger still, found no customers even at that figure among his ordinary patrons, who bargained for a reduction during a whole month, haggling over a matter of 100f., until one day some one heard of the affair and bought without hesitation, after which, feeling much encouraged by his profit of 625f. on the 25f. paid by him to M. X., he returned to that gentleman's palatial residence and bought another job lot for $20. "It will very nearly pay the freight on my carpets," chuckled M. X., who "never thought old paper could be worth so much, and I'll tell my Seville friend to send me some more." Wiser, however, from experience, he determined—I mean the book dealer—to sell at retail henceforth, and so offered to a celebrated bibliophilist, for 200f., a Phebus de Trepparel, "Des deduiz de la chasse des bestes Sauvaiges et des oisaux de proye," Paris, s. d., a small folio, of which the last copy sold here in 1881 was knocked down at auction for 5,000f. "Two hundred francs!" exclaimed the celebrated bibliophilist, "two hundred francs! You are mad! Never! Seventy-five francs, if you chose, but not a single centime more." And he got it for $15, as some one else got for $12 the "Côtre Rômât de la Rose," a *plaquette* in 4to. s. l. n. d., unknown to exist until very recently, containing a series of rare documents intended as a defense of the fair sex against the allegations of the famous "Roman de la Rose." I cannot enumerate, of course, here all the pearls and diamonds which this peddler offers for the price of old iron, but should any of your readers be so minded they can procure for $8 a volume of Clement Marot's tracts, not before supposed to be extant and at public sale, worth its weight in greenbacks, and a score of other things equally rare and valuable. Yet must they be prompt, for amateurs are beginning to discover these hidden treasures, and once their attention attracted and the purveyor's name known they will go directly to the (as one might say) carpet bagger, with whom there is still a large supply on hand awaiting customers.

Nor is this the only reason for promptness. Already has one ultra-conscientious creature offered to restore all the manuscripts bought by him at cost price, provided the Seville Chapter will take such precautions as will prevent further depredations, which is noble on his part, but unappreciated, as the personage to whom he wrote has replied that "he could make no promises to that effect, as in our country we attach little importance to moldy, worm-eaten waste paper." There seems no doubt that there has been a robbery; every volume brought here bears the same marks of mutilation; all the notes at the beginning and end of each book added by Fernando Columbus have been scratched out, and so has been the signet of the Columbine, a black stamp about an inch in diameter, representing the Giralda tower flanked on both sides with vases of flowers and bearing the inscription, "Bibliotica Columbina," yet the Vandals did not obliterate all traces of their origin, and on one copy, the "Complainte de l'Escuyes à la Dame," a Gothic quarto, is quite legible the following: "*Este libro costo en Torino * * * 12 de enero de* 1531." This book was purchased at Turin on the 12th of January, 1531, while the seal of the Columbine is still intact on another. Spanish literati may perhaps feel indignant at the recital of this profanation, but as the authorities decline to interfere the thieves will probably continue their exploits, although they do make very little money by their operations. Amateurs of limited means will doubtless profit by this golden opportunity, but even they must regret that in this enlightened age a civilized people should wink at the dispersion of these literary treasures so laboriously collected 350 years ago by an illustrious savant. Certainly in the possession of genuine connoisseurs these books will be more sedulously cared for than when they were on the shelves of the Columbina, but how many have been lost and mislaid, have served to wrap up sugar and cheese and garlic, how many have been destroyed or wantonly torn to light a *papelito*? Besides, volumes in a public library are accessible to everybody, they can be consulted by all interested in their contents, whereas in the hands of private individuals they are volumes that never again in all probability will be reopened.

3561. D.
Phillips' Circulating
Library (1801)

against circulating libraries.
Colman's "Polly Honeycombe":
preface on 1st ed.

Sir Anthony Absolute
"an evergreen tree of [illegible]"

[illegible] semi nov[illegible] in politics.

The Congressional Library.

[*From the New York Tribune, Sept. 6.*]

It was supposed when the bill providing for the erection of a separate building for the Library of Congress passed that body that one of our minor national scandals was at an end. Congress had been implored for many years to provide proper accommodations for this great collection of books, and its action was hailed with joy by all persons interested in the subject. But the trouble seems only to have begun after all. The Smithmeyer plan was adopted evidently under the impression that the building could be completed for $3,000,000. At least this was the total of the sums mentioned as necessary to be expended, and it was even said that this would furnish the shelving for 3,000,000 volumes. These statements were reiterated frequently in the debates, but no one seems to have discovered the misapprehension under which Congress was laboring. The building was to be 463 feet long by 332 wide, and it never seems to have occurred to any one to suggest that a structure much larger than the State, War and Navy building could not be put up for less than one-third of the cost of that pile. The Commission in whose charge the work was placed, consisting of the Secretary of the Interior, the Librarian of Congress and the architect of the Capitol, proceeded to make excavation for the entire building, and Congress now discovers, to its dismay, that it cannot be built for less than $10,000,000, and that it will probably cost considerably more.

There seems to have been blundering on all sides. Undoubtedly the committees which promised Congress that the cost should not exceed $3,000,000, meant the cost of so much of the building as it should be necessary to erect at this time for the accommodation of the library. A building capable of permanently housing 3,000,000 volumes ought to be sufficient for the use of the library for many years to come, if not for half a century. The largest library in the world, the National Library in Paris, contains not much more than 2,000,000 volumes, while the Congressional Library has now but about 400,000 volumes. Such a building ought to be so constructed, as a matter of course, that, while it shall be complete and convenient in itself, as well as architecturally beautiful, it shall be possible to enlarge it from time to time in the future to meet the needs of the library, which grows with great rapidity. It should not be for a generation, but for all time. But, on the other hand, there is an obvious extravagance in constructing at the present time a building far beyond the needs of the library many years hence, and it is difficult to comprehend why an enormous sum of money should have been expended in digging a great hole in the ground for the entire building when no one, apparently, has seriously proposed that more than a part of it shall be used at present.

Many members of the House blame Mr. Smithmeyer, because they allege that he was in frequent consultation with members while the original bill was under discussion, and permitted the general misapprehension to continue, and they manifested a disposition to hold him responsible, although technically all executive authority resides in the Commission. This Commission both Houses are ready to abolish, but they disagree as to the steps that shall follow. The House provision in the Sundry Civil bill calls for the preparation of new plans for a new building to cost $3,000,000 to be invited from eminent architects; the Senate amendment provides for constructing, under the present plan, only the western front and the reading-room, and the book repositories connected with them. This, it is believed, can be done for $4,000,000. It is provided also by the Senate amendment that the work shall be placed under the charge of General Casey, Chief of Engineers of the Army. It could not be in more capable hands. General Casey rescued the State, War and Navy Building from a chaos of mismanagement, and carried it through to successful completion. His reconstruction of the foundations of the Washington Monument, by which it was made secure after the pile had reached a great height, was a master stroke of engineering. He certainly combines in a rare degree both administrative and professional capacity. The decision of the matter now rests practically in the Conference Committee, as the House has positively refused to concur with the Senate.

[illegible] Pig Iron at the North.

⁂

Since the mass meeting in Chickering Hall in behalf of the Free Circulating Library, subscriptions to the amount of $4165 have been made to this truly philanthropic enterprise. This is very good so far as it goes, but what is wanted is four millions instead of four thousand.

⁂

[illegible] and Martin Crow, two boys o

Philadelphia, Monday, Feb. 24, 1890.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

IN DUE SEASON.

The Carnegie Free Library, of Allegheny, is the most imposing of the several noble monuments which the beneficent public spirit of Andrew G. Carnegie has during recent years erected and dedicated to the diffusion of knowledge. Mr. Carnegie, an earnest, shrewd, enterprising, thrifty man—rising from the ranks of the people by the sheer force of honorable, intelligent, resolute endeavor, and achieving great fortune—has not selfishly hoarded his acquisitions, but, as one who is only the steward of his fellow-men, he has placed much of his wealth where it will do the most good, not to himself, but to the world. Not content with himself rising to great heights of prosperity, he stops on his road to greater fortune to provide the means for others to rise, to divide that which he has personally earned and saved among the multitude less successful than he has been. What he has done in this regard shows the measure of a man of stalwart generosity.

The private charities of Mr. Carnegie have always been many and great. Among his public ones, of which the Free Library of Allegheny, to which his total gift will be $2,000,000, is the chief, are the Free Baths and Library at Dunfermline, Scotland, the place of his birth, where his father wrought at the loom; the Histological Laboratory of Bellevue Hospital, New York, to equip which he gave $50,000; the Edinburgh (Scotland) Free Library, which he endowed with $250,000, and the free libraries at Braddock and other places in Pennsylvania, which he gave for the uses of his employés. Either of these gifts is sufficiently munificent to denote the liberality and the public spirit of the giver and to entitle him to the enduring gratitude of his fellow-men.

Mr. Carnegie has given not only generously, but he has given wisely. He has made his gifts to living enterprises, during his lifetime. He has seen them rise from foundation-stone to coping. He has seen them completed, engaged in doing the helpful, beneficent work he intended them to do. He did not wait to give until, standing in the shadow of death, he was admonished that he could not take with him his great wealth. He did not leave it to others surviving him to use or abuse it for the benevolent purposes he entertained. While still strong in the power to enjoy his vast fortune, and while still vigorous of mind and body, he himself became the dispenser of his bounty. He thus took bond and warrant against posthumous chances of the failure of his designs. He accepted no risks of bequests to be contested by selfish heirs, to be lost in long judicial proceedings, their usefulness impaired or destroyed by the law's costs and delays. He not only planned his noble charities, he executed them. To his virtue of benevolence he added the virtue of timely application. In such cases there can easily be no failure.

Mr. Carnegie does not stand alone in doing while living the good works which so many have left to be done by others when their hearts and hands have been chilled by death. He had to influence him, if his shrewd, kindly judgment needed such incentive, the example of Peter Cooper, the founder of the famous Institute for the technical education of men and women, to which his son, Edward Cooper, and his son-in-law, Abram S. Hewitt, are continually giving generously and in which they are taking the most earnest interest during their living days; of the venerable Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore, who, at the dedicatory services of the Allegheny Library, the other day, sat by Mr. Carnegie's side, and who to the Library and Institute which bear his name he has given already $1,250,000, and which he daily sees doing works of greatest usefulness; of Mr. Pratt, of Brooklyn, who has established an institution for young men and women much like that of the Cooper Institute, whose son, inspired by his father's beneficent purposes, aids him in his good work; of John D. Lankenau, of this city, by whose bounty the German Hospital was founded, and about which, over an area of several acres, he has erected by the most munificent outlay hospital buildings and the Houses of the Deaconesses, those good folk who devote their lives to nursing the sick, ministering to the dying, praying for the dead; of John Jacob Astor, of New York, who died on Saturday last, who helped the poor of that city by giving them better tenement houses than they had ever had, who gave three valuable city lots and $250,000 in money to the Astor Library, who gave $100,000 to the Cancer Hospital of the Metropolis, to which Mrs. Astor had previously given more, who gave largely to the Newsboys' Lodging House and the Children's Aid Society. Together Mr. and Mrs. Astor gave $40,000 to send the waifs of the streets to comfortable western homes. Another of those whose benevolence has gone hand in hand with wisdom in planning and executing their beneficent purposes is Mr. Anthony J. Drexel, of this city, who, while living in unimpaired mental and physical health, has set apart a large sum for the building, equipping and maintenance of an Industrial Institute for the educational training of young men and women upon a plan of unusual comprehensiveness. The entire amount which Mr. Drexel proposes to contribute has not yet been definitely determined, but it is believed it will include $300,000 for the building, $200,000 for its equipment and $1,000,000 for the endowment of the institution, all which are provided for in Mr. Drexel's lifetime.

They who execute their own benefactions not only provide against failure, but daily and hourly see the good they do. Those who leave others to carry out their charitable intentions see none of their proposed good accomplished and have it often defeated. Two notable cases of such failure are of recent date. The Tilden will contest is likely, before it is finally decided, to become as famous as the noble bequest upon which it arose, that of a free library for New York, to the endowment of which several millions of dollars were to be devoted. Vast sums have already been spent in defending in the courts, where the contention year after year still proceeds, the testator's generous purposes. The case of Mr. Wood, of New York, who made provision by testament to establish a free college of music in that city, affords further evidence of the error of leaving the work of charity to be done by others. His bequest, after having been for years the subject of judicial dispute by the heirs, has been almost absorbed by the costs of litigation. So great has been the depreciation of the estate as to render impossible the foundation of the testator's proposed college of music.

Men should do with regard to such benevolent enterprises precisely that which they would do regarding business enterprises—give to them their own living personal thought and care.

WIL

LABOR NOTES.

—A new question is pressing itself on our attention with increasing urgency from year to year, due to the large remainder of leisure which diminishing hours of labor leave to the masses of working men and women in this country. Suppose we have 25,000,000 able-bodied workers of all classes in the United States. Their hours of labor have been reduced 15 to 20 per cent., as compared with the hours of labor 33 years ago. Here is a daily gain of an equivalent of 2,000,000 hours per day for the leisure of American working men and women—an immense responsibility of leisure, which, in a period of a century, wisely used, will make for popular intelligence and morals as well as for physical reconstruction. The working men and women of the United States already are singularly superior to the wage-earners of other countries in their use of leisure. Americans are the most attentive readers of newspapers of any people on the globe, and the workers of this country have been greatly educated and benefited by that daily circulating library—the newspaper. This service the newspaper will continue to render with increasing success. But we need other instruments; we require other schoolmasters. Lewiston and Auburn now particularly require good libraries. We want to see immediate movement in this direction by municipal leadership, it may be, and by individual and corporate co-operation. In a climate so addicted to inclemency as ours good books are agents of the temperance societies, agents of the churches, agents of the public order, disseminators of indoor sunshine and domestic felicity. For the price of a plug of tobacco one may now buy Shakespeare or Milton, and we notice that a full pamphlet edition of Dickens's novels may be bought for 62 cents. The reading workman is a better workman, less given to the sense of drudgery; he lives in a larger and better world. A good book transports us; translates us. We pass into the meadows of life, out among singing birds, out among the sweet illusions of song, poetry, landscape, domestic joy and love. As George Eliot says, "Good books help us to look on other lives beside our own"—that is, they help us to surmount selfish pursuits and to cure moody mental ailments. A man's self is the worst subject of protracted inquisition. To see into the cares and heroisms of other lives is to find solace and reinforcement of our own and to discover that we waste much of our force on self-gratification—disquiet ourselves "in a vain shadow."—*Lewiston Journal.*

The offer of Andrew Carnegie to expend not less than $1,000,000 in public libraries for Pittsburg was presented to Councils yesterday and accepted. Nothing now remains but to select the sites and adopt plans for buildings. The city will give $40,000 per year to maintain the libraries. Charles J. Clark, another millionaire, has offered a site, valued at $100,000, in the East End, for the central building.

MR. CARNEGIE'S GIFT.

FORMAL DEDICATION OF THE FREE LIBRARY.

Addresses by Mr. Carnegie, Mayor Pearson, of Allegheny, and President Harrison.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 20.—The formal dedication of the Carnegie Free Library, of Allegheny, took place this evening, and the institution was declared open by President Harrison.

The music hall of the building was filled. At 8 o'clock President Harrison and Mr. Carnegie arrived. The President was escorted down the aisle by Mr. James B. Scott, followed by Mr. Carnegie, with Councilman Ammon and the remainder of the party.

The President, Mr. Carnegie, Mr. Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore, and Mr. George Lauder, of the firm of Carnegie, Phipps & Co., took their seats in the box to the left of the stage. In the right hand box Governor Beaver, Congressmen Dalzell and Bayne and Professor Langley were seated. The stage was occupied by the ladies of the Mozart Society, while the gentlemen occupied the galleries to the right and left. Bishops Whitehead and Phelan, Chairman James B. Scott, and Councilmen Ammon, Kennedy, Snaman and Parks were on the stage. The exercises opened with singing of "America" by the Mozart Society. Bishop Whitehead next pronounced the invocation.

"The Heavens are Telling" was next given by the Mozart Society. Chairman Scott then announced that Mr. Carnegie would present the key of the library to Mayor Pearson. Mr. Carnegie came forth, with Mayor Pearson on his arm, and was greeted with applause.

Mr. Carnegie's Address.

Mr. Carnegie said: My wife (for her spirit and her influence are here to-night), my wife and I realize to-night how infinitely more blessed it is to give than to receive.

He then publicly thanked the committee for their devotion to the work, the President, Governor, Congressmen and Mr. Pratt, of Baltimore, the pioneer of free libraries, for their presence, having honored the speaker and citizens by travelling hundreds of miles that they might place the stamp of their approval upon the dedication.

Continuing, he said: This institution starts well. The holder of the most exalted, the holder of the highest political office in the whole world stands for the illustrious sponsor at its christening. I must not pass by without thanking the architects, Messrs. Smith, Meyer and Pells, who have given us a structure which on every hand is pronounced a perfect gem. Mayor Pearson, I never had the slightest doubt now but that you and your successors will so manage this institution that it will bring forth the goodly harvest which it is capable of producing. I wish also that the masses of working men and women, the wage earners of Allegheny, would remember and act upon the fact that this is their library, their gallery and their hall. The poorest citizen, the poorest man, the poorest woman that toils from morn till night for a livelihood—as, thank Heaven—I had that toil to do in my early days—as he walks this hall, as he reads the books from these alcoves, he listens to the organ and admires the works of art in this gallery, equally with the millionaire and the foremost citizen, I want him to exclaim in his own heart, "Behold, all this is mine. I support it, and I am proud to support it. I am joint proprietor here."

A few words of a personal character in conclusion: It was in Allegheny City that my parents, with their two boys, in this generous and ever hospitable republic, first found a shelter and a home. All of our early associations cluster around this vicinity, and it is therefore impossible that any other spot on earth can fill the place which Allegheny must ever hold in my heart, for the sake of those dear to me who sleep among you, and must have a home in my breast forever. You have been good, indeed, to the Scotch family of immigrants; and another mark of your great goodness to us permit me to specially acknowledge. You have seen fit voluntarily to link our family with these buildings. This has touched me deeply, for, Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen, I would that our family name might be held worthy of lasting remembrance among you. Surely it does not make one feel that he deserves such honor, but makes him remember that he shall try to be more deserving of it. Mr. Mayor, I now hand over to you this key, which places you, as the representative of the people of Allegheny, in possession of these buildings, to be their property forever. My warmest wishes for the prosperity of every citizen of Allegheny go from the depth of my heart with the gift.

Mayor Pearson Accepts the Gift.

Mayor Pearson said: As chief magistrate of the city of Allegheny, I accept of this key in trust. At the same time, permit me to extend to you the thanks of our grateful citizens for this grand, beautiful and costly gift. It is, sir, a noble gift, a monument that will stand for years, when you have passed away; a monument that will stand an immortal testimonial to your beneficence, and will keep your name before us—a name that will never be forgotten. This is free to all, rich and poor, and many pleasant and profitable hours will be spent in it. There are few cities that can boast of the same generosity of one man.

The President's Remarks.

Mr. Scott then introduced President Harrison, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and fellow citizens: I have spent a very instructive day in Allegheny county. I have seen that which was only fit, in the crude state, to be trodden under the foot of man, transmuted into that which serves the highest purposes of our material lives. I have seen that which was of prodigious weight, defying the direct application of the arm of man to move it, lifted by the skillful inventions of his brains as a babe would lift the toy that the fond mother places in its hands.

Yet, great and striking as these transformations have been, I witness here to-night one that is greater and finer. The dull ore of the mine is transmuted into those forms that serve the purposes of our present life. I have seen made to-day the rod upon which the throbbing engines carry the commerce of a great nation—the engines that hold safe within their grasp the power of steam that propels the great ships upon the sea; the vessels that bear everywhere throughout the world that message which this fair Republic sends to the kindreds of all peoples.

But here to-night we witness the transformation of what we are wont to call the precious metal into something that blooms for eternity. We will find the suggestion here in the instructive volumes that are to crowd these alcoves, the impulse, the spark that is to touch the slumbering mind of many a stalwart boy and many a bright and ambitious girl into the life that shall make them to be servants of their fellowmen and the companions of the Son of Man, who left His glory to serve the race. I saw to-day in those great works of human industry young men, not yet in middle life, controlling these great mills, and the suggestion came to my mind how this institution would promote the interests and intelligence of the young men of this prosperous country. Because it is the mind of man that has wrought all these great achievements. The hand is not cunning in itself. It is from the brain that it gets the impulse and teaching that enables it to perform the difficult tasks which are alone to distinguish the man. I hope that this institution may carry with it always, and with every book that rests upon its shelf, the suggestion to those who will participate in its blessings, "Read and Think." Because, unless thinking accompanies reading, there is not much profit in the books. I congratulate you that you have a citizen who could conceive a work like this. I am sure it will be an impulse to others who dwell among you, and that its influence, together with those other illustrations of a kindred nature which we find among you, until those who have accumulated wealth feel they hold it as trustees for mankind. "May I not do what I will with mine own" is the selfish spirit that dedicates to personal luxury the fruits of toil to be paramount! How much higher and nobler use of accumulative wealth have we before us in this magnificent structure to-night? It gives me great pleasure to be associated with the inauguration of this great enterprise. No one can tell how wide and deep and strong the stream will be that shall have its origin here. We cannot follow it through the generations that are to come. It is left in your charge, citizens of Allegheny, and, speaking for its generous donor, I declare it now to be opened to public use, and a place of assembly for all, and I charge you that you care for it in such manner that its highest usefulness may be reached, and that it may not in your hands fall below the high thought which was in the mind of him who has out of his own personal means erected and dedicated this library to public use. [Applause.]

President Harrison was followed by Mr. Pratt, of Baltimore; Governor Beaver, Congressmen Dalzell and Bayne, and others.

It is stated semi-officially that Mr. Carnegie has decided to increase his donation for a library to Pittsburg from one to two million dollars. The original donation was $500,000.

After a light lunch at the Duquesne Club, President Harrison was driven to the depot, where he took the night train for home.

Indy's Feb. 1890

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

From the Boston Advertiser.

Current news brings prominently to public attention the subject of free public libraries Mr. Andrew Carnegie's offer to give $1,000,000 for the founding of such an institution in Pittsburg comes at a time when Judge Chamberlain's extensive purchases for the Boston Library at the Barlow sale in New York are attracting special attention to the greatest and most successful enterprise of the sort of which this country can boast. "The iron king's" proposed magnificent gift will be made available only in case certain reasonable conditions are complied with, of which the most important is that the city shall perpetually maintain the library and secure its benefits to all the people who dwell within the limits of Pittsburg. It seems to Bostonians incredible that there can be any hesitancy or question in the matter, yet the fate of various generous offers of a like nature in some other cities leaves open ground for apprehension.

If the citizens of Pittsburg are at all in doubt regarding the value of such a boon as Mr. Carnegie stands ready to bestow, and if they are not quite certain whether it will "pay" to tax themselves sufficiently for the purpose of maintaining and rendering available the splendid treasure of knowledge now within their reach, Boston is in a position to throw light upon the problem. The *Advertiser* is confident of speaking the sentiments which are cherished here with almost perfect unanimity when we say that no one of our city's institutions is more certainly worth its cost, or returns a larger benefit for all moneys expended, or would more unwillingly be spared, than our free Public Library.

The benefits which it secures are many and constant. It is a fountain of intellectual refreshment, never stagnant, never stinted. In all this great city there is not a home blessed by the public school that is not, or may not be, blessed by the Public Library. There are no mental needs that cannot be, in some measure at least, supplied from this source. The man of science, the man of literary tastes, the historical investigator, the student of political economy, the mechanical draughtsman, the architect, the teacher and the teacher of teachers, can all find material suited to their wants in Bates Hall.

The youth and maiden, the lover of belles lettres, the romancist, the man or woman who is about to travel and wishes to study the countries that are to be visited, the man or woman who is deprived of the privilege of travelling, but longs for that privilege and is eager to read of lands that can at least be seen with the intellectual eye, boys and girls, the aged, they who are busy with toils that belong to life's noonday, rich and poor, learned and unlearned, every one can have access to volumes in the Lower Hall that will gratify noble desires and enrich daily existence.

How much of Boston's deserved and unique reputation for intelligence is attributable to her Public Library it is impossible to know, but any enumeration of the advantages for culture which are enjoyed here that failed to include this great advantage would be exceedingly deficient. Pittsburg will do well to close with Andrew Carnegie's offer with the least possible delay; and every other city which is debating the question whether to have or not to have a free public library will make a grave mistake if it does not decide in the affirmative.

THE

---

religion

FREE LIBRARIES COMING.

The Board of Education's Move in an Important Public Matter.

The first step toward the establishment of free libraries throughout the city, as approved by City Councils, was made yesterday, when the Board of Education took possession of the library at Thirteenth and Locust streets, and opened the doors to the general public. This library, which was presented by S. P. Ferree, contains from 5000 to 6000 volumes, including many valuable books of reference.

Secretary Halliwell, of the Board of Education, said yesterday: "The free library idea, which had its origin with Select Councilman Gates, through whose efforts an appropriation of $15,000 was obtained, is now practically an assured success. The library opened to-day will form a nucleus. A portion of the library of Wagner Institute, at Seventeenth street and Montgomery avenue, will soon be placed at the disposal of the public, and we have in contemplation the establishment of a third somewhere in the northeastern section of the city."

positively cures Croup.

March 1892, Lead

$250,000 in money to the Astor Library.

* *

There are about a hundred public or semi-public libraries in this city, containing over 5000 books, but there is not one library of the first class. The Astor Library is the best and the most richly endowed, but it does not bear the same relation to New York that the British Museum does to London or the Public Library does to Boston. The Astor Library is several years behind the times. John Jacob Astor's bequest of $450,000, however, will serve to increase the usefulness of the institution, and I hear that the trustees are projecting a number of needed reforms and improvements. The Astors have altogether given about $2,000,000 to the library, which contains about 225,000 volumes. The income of all but $50,000 of the latest gift will be devoted exclusively to the purchase of books, so that it is probable that the library will, in a few years, be more nearly even with the literature of the times. It is especially weak at present in the department of science. The largest library in the city is the Mercantile, which owns 240,000 volumes. This is a circulating library, and, of course, most of its purchases of new books are of works of fiction and other volumes of current popular interest. It is a useful institution, though not free, as an annual charge is made for the privileges of the library. The Mercantile, as has already been reported, is about to erect a new building to cost $400,000, and when this is finished its usefulness will be greatly extended. The Lenox Library, founded by James Lenox, who gave to it his own splendid collection of rare books, has a fine building and about 40,000 volumes, but for the most part it is of value only to students of special subjects. It is in sense a popular library. S. Austin Allibone was once librarian of this institution. The Historical Society owns about 80,000 books, many of them very valuable. The library is especially rich in works relating to American history. The society has lately raised a building fund of $250,000, and will in a year or two have a new building uptown. Its present quarters are altogether inadequate. The oldest library in the city is that of the New York Society, which was founded a hundred and fifty years ago by Rev. M. Millington, an English clergyman. It owns about 40,000 volumes. Columbia College has recently put its libraries in a new building, thoroughly equipped in every respect. It holds about 70,000 books, and its future is very bright. It should in time become one of the great libraries of the country. The Apprentices' Library is based on popular ideas. It is open practically at all hours, and books can be read either in the building or taken home. The library was founded shortly after the Revolution and contains about 90,000 volumes. Among the smaller libraries is that of the Union Theological Seminary, which contains among its other treasures 400 books printed prior to 1500 A. D. But while all these institutions are useful in greater or less extent, it is a fact that none of them stands in the class of public libraries. What is wanted here is a library like that of the Boston Public Library, containing 400,000 volumes, receiving an income of over $100,000 a year open during most of the day and night, absolutely free to everybody, and from which books can be taken home for reading and examination. Chicago is soon to have such a library through the philanthropy of Newberry, who, dying several years ago, left four or five millions of dollars for the purpose. This money has lately become available and it will provide one of the greatest libraries in the world. If the Tilden will is sustained New York will have just such a library, but that "if" is still a big one. It costs a great deal of money to maintain a big public library. Leaving out of the question the cost of the acquisition of old publications, the mere expense of keeping abreast with current literature is a serious one. About 2000 new books are published in the United States every year, and England, France and Germany are even greater producers of books.

* *

Ex-Postmaster M. W. McAlarney, of Harrisburg, and State Librarian William H. Egle, were in this city on Saturday, purchasing books for the public library that is to be instituted at the State Capital. It is proposed to start the library with about 4000 volumes.

Mr. Drowne [illegible] late Evart A. Duykinck, and was intrusted by him with the confidential mission of making known to Dr. George H. Moore, librarian of the Lenox Library, his desire to give to the li rary his collection of ra and costly books. This, by the way, was the Mr. Duykinck of whom James Russell Lowell wrote in one of his poems:

"How d'ye do, Mr. Duykinck? I'm happy to meet
With a scholar so ripe, and a critic so neat,
Who the soul of a gentleman through Bond Street

[*From the New York Tribune.*]

The Association of State Libraries has issued a circular calling the attention of who it may concern to the resolutions which were adopted by the Association at the St. Louis Conference. These resolutions attest that the association is in capable hands, and therefore, is sure to accomplish much good work in its important and ever-widening field. Only let a sound policy prevail in its management and a State library must necessarily prove a most valuable agency for the advancement of the common weal by extending the area of knowledge. But experience has shown how easy it is to render a library of small practical worth by developing it unwisely, by imposing ill-considered restrictions upon its use, or by committing some related mistake. Alive to these considerations, the leading State Librarians of the country formed this association. Their objects were, as they themselves state them, to promote in the public mind an appreciation of the proper scope and dignity of the libraries, to secure uniform laws in the different States for library government, and for the exchange of public documents. It needs no argument to prove that an organization whose aims are thus sensible and unselfish is deserving of the heartiest general encouragement. The sole purpose of these intelligent public servants is to make the institutions over which they preside all that wisdom reinforced by experience suggests that they should be.

The resolutions in question are not calculated to provoke debate. If they are not speedily adopted unanimously by the Legislatures of all the States and the necessary laws passed in accordance with them, the delay will only prove, what has been so often proved before, that some much-needed reforms take time. The conference resolved, among other things, that each State should maintain its library by means of a fund created for that purpose, instead of maintaining it by means of annual appropriations; that the tenure of office of a librarian should not be affected by politics; that each State should provide by law for the proper lettering, indexing and title-paging of all books published under its authority, and should also arrange for an adequate distribution of such publications and of duplicate books that may be in its possession. The other set of resolutions adopted at the conference is addressed to Congress. They call for free transportation to mails between State libraries, for a lower rate of postage on books, and for the extension to the State libraries of the privilege now enjoyed by the library of Congress, and by colleges and schools in the exemption of books from import duties, and for an international arrangement securing foreign exchanges.

The Governor of each State was requested by the conference to submit the first set of resolutions to the Legislature, and to urge upon it "the adoption of the laws necessary to carry out the reforms therein recommended, and also to impress upon it the propriety of adopting memorials to Congress in favor of the (necessary) Federal legislation." We believe that Governor Hill has not yet responded to this request. But since in his annual message which he transmitted in January he intimated that during the session he might send in additional recommendations, it may be that he will yet bring this subject to the attention of the law-makers before they finally adjourn.

Of Mrs. Mary Morancy, who has just been displaced as State Librarian of Mississippi, the *Mississippi White Ribboner* says: "Mrs. Mary Morancy, State Librarian for 14 years, deserves to be remembered as the first woman to hold a State office in Mississippi. When Mrs. Morancy went into the library it was in a most incomplete, chaotic condition. With a constantly decreasing amount with which to purchase books, Mrs. Morancy made the Mississippi library the second of all State libraries in value—Massachusetts only outranking it. As a librarian Mrs. Morancy is an expert. Her knowledge of the books in her care is wonderful. Judges, State officers and members of legislature come all day to her to hunt up citations needed for cases; and Mrs. Morancy finds them when they cannot, and often tells a lawyer what reference will fit. I saw a judge from the Supreme bench come for a poetical quotation for a speech, which the deft fingers and brain of the librarian quickly placed in his hand. Years of experience are needed to reach the proficiency Mrs. Morancy has acquired. If Mississippi has been the first State to justify woman's property rights, she has also taken the lead in removing a State librarian for other cause than disqualification or neglect of duty."

---

* *

New York is beginning to manifest keener interest in the question of a free public library. As was shown in this correspondence a few days ago, the metropolis is far behind other cities in this particular. Since the Tilden will was published we have been resting in hopes that the philanthropy of the statesman would supply the deficiency, but now there is a disposition to take the matter in hand without waiting for the Tilden endowment. A mass meeting was held late this afternoon, at Chickering Hall, in behalf of the New York Free Circulating Library, which, organized only six years ago, has already accomplished a great deal, and which, with more liberal support, can accomplish much more. The hall was crowded and ex-Judge Howland, ex-President Cleveland, President Seth Low, of Columbia College, and others made addresses. Judge Howland explained the work of the four branches of the library, and how widespread is their beneficence, especially among the poor. One of the libraries was placed next door to a liquor saloon and dance house, which has since gone out of business, "because," as the proprietor was frank enough to acknowledge, "that library has ruined my trade." Judge Howland read statistics showing how much different cities raise by taxation for free libraries. Boston stands at the head of the list, appropriating $127,000 a year, and New York at the bottom, with only $12,500 a year. Mr. Cleveland in his address showed that free circulating libraries were as necessary for the making of good citizens as free schools, and, in fact, they supplemented the work of the latter. The schools taught the people how to read; the libraries provided the means by which they may read. Mr. Cleveland, however, thought that it was as important that persons should read good books as that they should read at all, and he pointed out the deleterious influence of certain classes of publications on boys and young women. He spoke warmly of the work of the Free Circulating Library and hoped that the public would come liberally to its support. Seth Low remarked that he was glad that his first public appearance as a citizen of this city should be in advocacy of a free library. In the course of his speech he defined the uses of different classes of libraries, and said that the library having for its object some special subject, like science, seemed to him like the headlight of a locomotive. It shines very brightly on a straight pathway right ahead, but sheds little light on either side. But the free general library is like the sun, which sheds its light and warmth in every direction, and even those who do not seek it

---

Free Libraries in Philadelphia.

The accounts published the other day in the Philadelphia newspapers of the opening of the free public library in the Wagner Institute building have evidently been misconstrued in other cities. It must be acknowledged that Philadelphia is sadly behind many of her sisters in such matters; but she is not so bad as they are painting her.

The collection of 6000 volumes opened to the public in the Wagner building is the pioneer of the system of free public libraries provided for by a recent ordinance of the City Councils, but not the first free public library in this city, by any means. The District Institute libraries, the City, Southwark, Spring Garden, Moyamensing and West Philadelphia—collections of considerable size and importance which are absolutely free, both as consulting and lending libraries—have been doing valuable educational work in the community for many years; and the same may be said of that older institution, the Apprentices' Library.

There is also a consulting library of the highest class, the Ridgway, which is absolutely free, although its value is impaired by the unfortunate location of the magnifi ent temple of granite in which it is oused, and the fact that it is not open to aders in the evening.

Oct. 1892

Librarians' Class at the Institute.

The librarian's occupation having become a profession, Drexel Institute has decided to organize a systematic training school to educate men and women for the life work of librarians. There will be two terms per year, the first one beginning on October 1 and closing in three months; the second, of four months, beginning on February 1. The instruction and training embraces two courses—Library Economy and Cataloguing, with Lectures on English Literature, Bibliography and the History of Books and Printing. Students may take both of these courses simultaneously, as may be found advisable.

ADDRESS BY MR. CLEVELAND

AT A MASS MEETING IN CHICKERING HALL, NEW YORK,

To Advance the Interests of the New York Free Circulating Library.

NEW YORK, March 6.—A mass meeting to advance the interests of the New York Free Circulating Library was held this afternoon in Chickering Hall. One of the speakers was Ex-President Grover Cleveland. Benjamin H. Field presided and introduced Mr. Cleveland, who was the second speaker, amid loud applause. Mr. Cleveland said:

Mr. Chairman and Ladies and Gentlemen:

The few words I shall speak on this occasion, I intend rather as a pledge of my adherence to the cause in which you are enlisted, than an attempt to say anything new or instructive. I gladly join with the enthusiasm of a new convert in the felicitations of those who have done noble and effective work in the establishment and maintenance in our city of a free circulating library; and it seems to me they have abundant cause for congratulation in a review of the good which has already been accomplished through their efforts and in the contemplation of the further usefulness which awaits their continued endeavor.

In every enlightened country the value of popular education is fully recognized, not only as direct benefit to its recipients, but as an element of strength and safety in organized society. Considered in these aspects it should nowhere be better appreciated than in this land of free institutions consecrated to the welfare and happiness of its citizens, and deriving its sanction and its power from the people. Here the character of the people is inevitably impressed upon the Government, and here our public life can no more be higher and purer than the life of the people, than a stream can rise above its fountain or be purer than the spring in which it has its source.

That we have not failed to realize these conditions is demonstrated by the establishment of free public schools on every side, where children are not only invited, but often obliged to submit themselves to such instruction as will better their situation in life and fit them to take part intelligently in the conduct of the Government.

Thus in our schools the young are taught to read, and in this manner the seed is sown from which we expect a profitable return to the State, when its beneficiaries shall repay the educational advances made to them by an intelligent and patriotic performance of their social and political duties.

And yet if we are to create good citizenship, which is the object of popular education, and if we are to insure to the country the full benefit of public instruction, we can by no means consider the work as completely done in the school-room. While the young gathered there are fitting themselves to assume in the future their political obligations, there are others upon whom these obligations already rest, and who now have the welfare and safety of the country in their keeping. Our work is badly done if these are neglected. They have passed the school age, and have, perhaps, availed themselves of free instruction; but they, as well as those still in school, should, nevertheless, have within their reach the means of further mental improvement and the opportunity of gaining that additional knowledge and information which can only be secured by access to useful and instructive books.

The husbandman who expects to gain a profitable return from his orchards not only carefully tends and cultivates the young trees in his nurseries as they grow to maturity, but he generously enriches and cares for those already in bearing and upon whic he must rely for ripened fruit.

Teaching the children of our land to reac is but the first step in the scheme of creatin good citizens by means of free instructio We teach the young to read so that both a children and as men and women they ma read. Our teaching must lead to the hab and the desire of reading to be useful; an only as this result is reached can the wor in our free schools be logically supplement and made valuable.

Therefore, the same wise policy and intent which opens the doors of our free schools to our young, also suggest the completion of the plan thus entered upon by placing books in the hands of those who in our schools have been taught to read.

A man or woman who never reads and is abandoned to unthinking torpor, or who allows the entire mental life to be bounded by the narrow lines of a daily recurring routine of effort for mere existence, cannot escape a condition of barrenness of mind which not only causes the decay of individual cententment and happiness, but which fails to yield to the State its justly expected return of usefulness in valuable service and wholesome political action.

Another branch of this question should not be overlooked. It is not only of great importance that our youth and our men and women should have the ability, the desire and the opportunity to read, but the kind of books they read is no less important. Without guidance and without the invitation and encouragement to read publications which will improve as well as interest, there is danger that our people will have in their hands books whose influence and tendency are of a negative sort, if not positively bad and mischievous. Like other good things, the ability and opportunity to read may be so used as to defeat their beneficent purposes.

The boy who greedily devours the vicious tales of imaginary daring and blood-curdling adventure which in these days are far too accessible to the young, will have his brain filled with notions of life and standards of manliness which, if they do not make him a menace to peace and good order, will certainly not tend to make him a useful member of society.

The man who devotes himself to the flash literature now much too common, will, instead of increasing his value as a citizen, almost surely degenerate in his ideas of public duty and grow dull in his appreciation of the obligations he owes his country.

In both these cases there will be a loss to the State. There is danger also that a positive and aggressive injury to the community will result; and such readers will certainly suffer deprivation of the happiness and contentment which are the fruits of improving study and well-regulated thought.

So, too, the young woman who seeks recreation and entertainment in reading silly and frivolous books, often of doubtful moral tendency, is herself in the way of becoming frivolous and silly, if not of weak morality. If she escapes this latter condition she is almost certain to become utterly unfitted to bear patiently the burden of selfsuppport or to assume the sacred duties of wife and mother.

Contemplating these truths, no one can doubt the importance of securing for those who read, as far as it is in our power, facilities for the study and reading of such books as will instruct and innocently entertain, and which will at the same time improve and correct the tastes and desires.

There is another thought somewhat in advance of those already suggested, which should not pass unnoticed.

As an outgrowth of the inventive and progressive spirit of our people, we have among us legions of men, and women too, who restlessly desire to increase their knowledge of the new forces and agencies which at this time are being constantly dragged from their lurking places and subjected to the use of man. Those earnest inquirers should all be given a chance and have put within their reach such books as will guide and inspire their efforts. If by this means the country shall gain to itself a new inventor or be the patron of endeavor which shall add new elements to the sum of human happiness and comfort its intervention will be well repaid.

These considerations, and the fact that many among us having the ability and inclination to read are unable to furnish themselves with profitable and wholesome books, amply justify the beneficent mission of our Free Circulating Library. Its plan and operation, s exactly adjusted as to meet a situation which cannot safely be ignored and to wants which ought not to be neglected, establish its claim upon the encouragement and reasonable aid of the public authorities and commend it most fully to the support and generosity of private benefaction.

The development which this good work has already reached in our city has exhibited the broad field yet remaining untouched and the inadequacy of present operations. It has brought to view also instances of noble individual philanthropy and disinterested private effort and contribution.

But it certainly seems that the time and money directed to this object are confined to a circle of persons far too narrow, and that the public encouragement and aid have been greatly disproportioned to private endeavor.

The city of New York has never shown herself willing to be behind other cities in such work as is done by our Free Circulating Library, and, while her people are much engrossed in business activity and enterprise, they have never yet turned away from a cause once demonstrated to them to be so worthy and useful as this.

The demonstration is at hand. Let it be pressed upon our fellow-citizens, and let them be shown the practical operation of the project you have in hand and the good it has accomplished, and the further good of which it is capable through their increased liberality, and it will be strange if they fail to respond generously to your appeal to put the city of New York in the front rank of the cities which have recognized the usefulness of free circulating libraries.

Other speakers were Joseph H. Choate, Henry E. Howland and President Low, of Columbia College.

Philadelphia, Friday, March 14, 1890.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

WANTED—A PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Philadelphia wants a public library, by which is meant a thoroughly free circulating library on a large scale—and it wants it very much. It has heretofore been the rule that when this city wanted anything, or, at least, when it was proved to the entire satisfaction of our broad-minded, public-spirited fellow-citizens that it wanted anything, it got it. The monuments which proclaim the wise, beneficent liberality of the people of Philadelphia are as numerous and imposing as those of any other community of like numbers in the world. The noblest charities are to be seen here, doing their good work upon every hand, and they are of every form of genuine usefulness, excepting that of a great free library for educating our poor youth through and by the free circulation of books. There are many practically free libraries in Philadelphia on a small scale for such youths, but these are quite limited in their usefulness or quite local. There is no such thing as a great free library in this wealthy and populous city in the sense that the Boston Public Library and the New York Circulating Library are free and widely used.

There was a public meeting held in New York the other day for the purpose of enlisting public interest in the latter named institution. On the platform were many of the most distinguished citizens of the metropolis; among them was ex-President Cleveland, who said that the well-selected public library was the natural and necessary adjunct of the public school. He said that "if we are to create good citizenship, which is the object of popular education, and if we are to insure to the country the full benefit of public instruction, we can by no means consider the work as completely done in the school room. Teaching the children of our land to read is but the first step in the scheme of creating good citizens by means of free instruction. We teach the young to read so that both as childre and as men and women they may read. Our teaching must lead to the habit and the desire of reading to be useful, and only as this result is reached can the work in our free schools be logically supplemented and made valuable."

To this Mr. Cleveland added: "It is not only of great importance that our youth and our men and women should have the ability, the desire and the opportunity to read, but the kind of books they read is no less important. The boy who greedily devours the vicious tales of imaginary daring and blood-curdling adventure which in these days are far too accessible to the young will have his brain filled with notions of life and standards of manliness which, if they do not make him a menace to peace and good order, will certainly not tend to make him a useful member of society. The man who devotes himself to the flash literature now much too common will, instead of increasing his value as a citizen, almost surely degenerate in his ideas of public duty and grow dull in his appreciation of the obligations he owes his country. In both these cases there will be a loss to the State."

The LEDGER republishes these parts of the ex-President's speech because it believes the truths with which they express cannot be too much considered by any one who has a vital interest in maintaining the free institutions of his country, and who is concerned for the happiness and prosperity of its people.

In presenting a brief résumé of the financial condition of the New York Circulating Library, Judge Henry Howland said that it had received during 1889 only $21,500, and that it had expended $23,000. With this comparatively insignificant sum the Library had circulated 490,000 volumes. He stated that of this immense number of volumes only 11 had been lost. "Books," he said, "had been reurned from California, Dakota, New Mexico, and even from Germany, whither they had been taken unwittingly by persons to whom they had been loaned."

Seth Low, President of Columbia College, said, in comparing the various kinds of libraries, that "the scientific library is like the head light of a locomotive. It shows a bright light straight ahead, but very little on either side. The circulating

---

John Walsh, a car driver, was committed by Magistrate Lelar for a further hearing on the charge of running over Thomas Calkins, two years old, residing at 701 South Seventh street, on Seventh street, near Bainbridge. The child had one of his shoulders shattered.

Joseph Marks, residing in Baltimore, was ommitted by Magistrate Pole for a further earing on the charge of attempting to pick ckets on Eighth street.

THE NEW CAMBRIA LIBRARY.

DEDICATION OF MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE'S GENEROUS GIFT TO JOHNSTOWN—ADDRESS OF MR. CYRUS ELDER.

The new Cambria Library, at Johnstown, built at the expense of Mr. Andrew Carnegie to replace the structure destroyed by the Great Flood in May, 1889, was dedicated with interesting ceremonies on Friday evening last. We give some extracts from an address made by Cyrus Elder, Esq., President of the Library Association, presenting facts of general interest.

After giving a sketch of the Library enterprise, and of the work done in the old building, Mr. Elder paid this personal tribute:—

"The institution was fortunate in its Librarian—Mrs. M. L. Hirst—a lady of fine culture, of winning manners, and beautiful person, who was thoroughly proficient in her work. It was the best part of the education of the youths who frequented the Library to meet this dignified, graceful, and kindly lady, and to have her advice and assistance in its use. A daughter of Charles Ogle, who, in his day, was the foremost lawyer and statesman of Western Pennsylvania, and accustomed to the refinements and comforts which belong to a high social position and a liberal competency, she performed with conscientious fidelity all the duties of her position, and counted no service or labor as menial or unbecoming to her. Her life was full of sacrifices for the good of others, and not lacking in the crown of great sorrows nobly borne. She personified all that this Institution can hope to accomplish, and while it endures the story of her beautiful life and her tragical death will not be forgotten."

After the flood the Cambria Iron Company offered to replace the library, but Mr. Carnegie wrote a letter to Mr. Elder urgently requesting that he be individually allowed to do the work, and his offer was accepted by the Library Association. After narrating these facts Mr. Elder took up the story as follows:—

"The Committee gave its architect—Addison Hutton, Esq., of Philadelphia—the data for the construction of plans, which Mr. Carnegie had left entirely in its discretion. It was a serious responsibility, involving a proper conception of the present and future requirements of the community on the one side, and as to the other a care that Mr. Carnegie's generosity should not be abused.

"The first plan presented to us we found to be inadequate. A second plan was concluded to be larger than our needs and unduly expensive. The best features of both plans incorporated in a third met with our approval, and the Committee procured estimates of the cost of construction. Advising Mr. Carnegie of our action, he replied by leaving the whole matter to the Committee, but I thought it best that he should, at least, have the opportunity of seeing and approving what we had adopted, and I finally met Mr. Carnegie in Pittsburg, having with me three plans, which he, however, did not have time to examine.

"I gave him a concise description of them, and he agreed that plan 'C' must be about right, and, asking what was the estimated cost of construction, he called in a clerk and dictated to him a letter to his firm, directing them to pay my drafts upon them in instalments of $5,000 each, to the amount of $55,332. I was surprised at such readiness and informality in the disposition of such a

Y 22, 1892—TWELVE PA

large amount of money, but I understood it better when I found waiting in the ante-room a Committee of citizens of Pittsburg who had charge of a matter of the same nature, involving a gift by Mr. Carnegie of more than a million dollars.

"Mr. E. Y. Townsend, the beloved and lamented President of the Cambria Iron Company, on his last visit to Johnstown, personally examined the site of the Library, and promptly concluded that the adjoining lot of ground, formerly occupied by the telegraph office should be deeded to the Association. He thought that this fine jewel presented by our friend Mr. Carnegie should have an appropriate setting, and a deed of the Cambria Iron Company to the Cambria Library Association for a lot of ground fronting fifty-four and a half feet on Washington street has been authorized to be executed by the Board of Directors.

"You will all regret that our friend, Mr. Carnegie, is prevented by other engagements from being with us. Without him our opening ceremonies are like the play of *Hamlet* with the part of Hamlet omitted. We know how gracefully he can say the most appropriate word, and our programme was arranged mainly for the purpose of seeing and hearing him. He has promised that upon his return from the Pacific Coast he will visit Johnstown with Mrs. Carnegie, when we will have the pleasure of receiving them in this beautiful building, which we owe to their bounty. That Mr. Carnegie treats this large benefaction as an obligation which we have conferred upon him, makes it, in a certain sense, all the more onerous, and we will all be impressed with the sense of the great responsibility in the administration of this trust. That it may be put to the best uses, I invoke the cordial co-operation of all our people."

E BOOKS FOR A MILL

E TRUSTEES OF THE NEW LIBRARY SEEK UNION.

Plan to Have All the Volumes of the City Recorded in One Card Catalogue.

The plans for the unification of all the libraries in the city into one complete system are going forward apace as the Board of Trustees of the great Free Library develop their scheme.

It is proposed at an early date to call a conference of all the libraries, both large and small, located in the city, to discuss plans whereby they can be merged into a common system. The relation that will be established with such will not necessarily be of an organic nature, but may be very close and at the same time informal.

A CATALOGUE OF ALL THE BOOKS IN TOWN.

One thing that has been suggested is that the Free Library shall maintain a duplicate card catalogue of the collections of every library in the city. It will then be possible for a person to ascertain just what books are at his command in any of the libraries in town.

PRESIDENT DEWEY'S SUGGESTION.

In a letter recently received by George Henderson, Secretary of the Free Library, from Dr. Melvil Dewey, the President of the American Library Association, the latter says: "I hope you will not think it impertinent if, as President of the American Library Association, I urge upon those having this matter in hand for Philadelphia the great desirability of consolidating your various library interests into one strong institution instead of having a half-dozen weak ones. We must learn in education a lesson from wise men of business who find that by consolidating a large number of independent concerns into a single trust a great success replaces a comparative failure.

MANY SITES OFFERED.

Since the appointment by the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of the special committee to report upon an available site many properties have been proffered to the library managers. In choosing the site it is most necessary to keep continually in view the two great railroad terminals—the Pennsylvania, at Broad and Market, and the Reading, which will be at Twelfth and Market. The site selected will be as central as possible.

JEALOUS HUSBAND'S CRIMES

191

'VARSITY BOOKS MISSING

Librarian Jastrow Says Valuable Volumes Have Gone Astray

Dr. Morris Jastrow, Jr., librarian of the University of Pennsylvania, fears that unless some steps are soon taken to prevent the loss of valuable books from the library of the institution its value will be seriously impaired. During the past six weeks more than forty volumes have disappeared from the shelves. Many of them are works of reference and difficult to replace.

Various schemes for keeping track of the books have been adopted, but the books have continued to disappear in some mysterious manner. Dr. Jastrow does not wish to resort to the extreme measure of forbidding the students access to the shelves, but says he will be driven to it if the books continue to disappear. The subject will be discussed at a conference to be held to-morrow afternoon between the editors of the various college papers, the presidents of the different [illegible] and the library trustees.

Record

MORNING, MARCH 13, 1894

A RUSH FOR FREE BOOKS

The New Library in the City Hall is Successfully Opened.

THE FIRST DAY A BUSY ONE

Over 1000 Applications Keep the Staff of Attendants on the Move to Supply the Demand for Books on the Shelves.

The new City Free Library was formally dedicated yesterday in a most successful manner. The temporary quarters in the southwestern corridor of the Public Buildings resembled a busy beehive from early in the morning until late in the evening. The first books passed over the circulation desk long before noon, and 1000 applications were announced by the registrar at the close of the day. Fully one-third of the applicants had already been provided with library cards. The reference shelves were also consulted by a crowd of visitors, and the reading room was filled with leisurely perusers of magazines and newspapers.

The oaken shelves, tastily fitted against the marble-wainscoted walls, presented a handsome appearance. Although the library possesses only a mere nucleus at present, the shelves were laden with nearly 7000 volumes, bearing witness to the most judicious selection. The most modern and revised reference books stand in the reading room, and a wide range of standard works and popular literature of the day in the circulation room. As fast as possible, guided by the public demand, new volumes will be added. The admirably arranged catalogue rack and the conveniently classified book-shelves testified to the creditable labors of Librarian Thomson and his corps of eight assistants. The promptness with which library cards have been issued was also gratifyingly evidenced in the quickness with which yesterday's patrons were supplied with the volumes called for.

The library will be open from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. on every weekday, except holidays, the circulating department closing, however, at 9 P. M. All persons over the age of 12, who reside in the city or intend residing here for [illegible] than six months, or who are pupils in any of its schools, are entitled to all the privileges of the institution. Registration cards entitle the holder to have a book out of the library for two weeks, with one opportunity of renewal. Two volumes of one work will be issued at the same time on one card. Books of recent purchase, labeled "Seven-day Book," cannot be retained more than one week. A fine of one cent a day will be charged for every day a book is kept overtime.

1894-

TO THE LIBRARIAN OF

Ridgway Branch of Phila. Library

At the last Annual Meeting of the AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION held at Fabyans, New Hampshire, September 9th to 13th, 1890, the importance of State Associations of librarians and others interested in the formation and management of libraries was discussed and emphasized, and the great benefits to be derived from such organizations were clearly shown.

The librarians present at the Conference from this State, appreciating fully the advantages of co-operation in library work therefore propose to form a Pennsylvania State Library Association for the following purposes;

1st. To bring together, at least once a year, the officers of the various libraries in the State to discuss the best methods of administration with regard to the libraries and the public.

2d. To stimulate library interests in the State by means of addresses, newspaper articles, printed matter, and especially by the meetings of the Association in different parts of the State.

3d. To secure the enactment of State laws for the formation and better protection of libraries.

4th. To obtain a systematic distribution of State documents, an interchange of ~~duplicates between libraries, and also a system of inter-library loans.~~

5th. To bring the State of Pennsylvania into line with the north-eastern states as regards the number and efficiency of the public libraries within her borders, and to place her in the front ranks in educational interests.

There are about 300 libraries of various kinds in Pennsylvania, and the advantages of a local association are obvious.

It will be a comparatively easy and inexpensive matter to bring together a good representation of librarians and others interested, to our meetings, and the unfailing quickening and enthusiasm which such meetings always create will re-act upon our libraries with great power. In union there is life and strength, and in the union of our library interests we can advance them incalculably, and also create a life and influence which will stimulate the cause of education throughout the State.

If you are at all interested in the formation of such an association we would like to hear from you. If you have had experience in library work, we want the benefit of your experience for ourselves and others. If you are a novice in the work, you will doubtless, be benefitted by the experiences of others. In either case we will need your interest and enthusiasm to make our orginization a success.

Please let us know whether you will join us, and also whether you have any preference for a place of meeting.

Yours truly,

J: EDMANDS, *Mercantile Library, Philadelphia, Pa.*
H. P. JAMES, *Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.*
T: L. MONTGOMERY, *Wagner Free Institute of Science, Phila.* ×

Samuel Crawford, Esq.

semi nov

The
[From

It was
for the erec
Library of
one of our
an end. C
many year
tions for th
its action w
interested
seems only
Smithmeye
under the
could be c
this was th
necessary t
said that t
for 3,000,00
were reite
bates, but
the misapp
was laborin
feet long b
have occu
structure
and Navy
less than
The Com
work was p
of the Int
and the ar
to make ex
and Congre
that it can
000, and th
ably more.

There see
all sides.
which pro
should not
of so much
necessary t
commodat
capable of
volumes ou
the library
half a cent
world, the
tains not m
while the
but about
ing ought
ter of course
and conveni
tecturally b
enlarge it fr
meet the ne
with great r
generation,
other hand,
gance in co
building fa
many years
prehend wh
should hav
great hole i
ing when n
proposed th
be used at p

Many me
Smithmeye
was in frequ
while the or
and permitt
to continue,
tion to hold
nically all e
Commissio
are ready to
the steps th
vision in th
preparation
to cost $3,000
architects;
vides for c
plan, only t
ing-room,
connected w
can be done
by the Sena
shall be plac
Casey, Chief
could not be
eral Casey r
Building fro
and carried
tion. His r
of the Wash
was made s
great height
neering. H
degree bot
sional capa
now rests
Committee,
fused to co

Since
Hall in
brary, s
have bee
enterpris
goes, but
stead of f

WAGNER FREE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE,
MONTGOMERY AVE. & 17TH ST.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

27 January '92

Dear Sir:

A meeting to consider the formation of a library club will be held at the Drexel Institute on Friday Evening next at 8 P.M.

Will you not be present at that time and also ask your assistants to be present?

Very truly yours

Thomas L. Montgomery

To
Bunford Samuel Esq.

ost deligh

THE NEW LIBRARY BILL

AND HOW THE TILDEN TRUST MAY BE AFFECTED BY IT.

The approval by Gov. Flower, reported yesterday, of the bill to permit the consolidation of library companies in this city furnishes an opportunity for a project that has for some time been the subject for informal discussion. Andrew H. Green drew the bill, and mainly owing to his efforts it became a law. The general project of library consolidation commended itself to him as a result of the experiences of the Tilden estate.

Had Gov. Tilden's will been allowed to stand, the $4,000,000 which Gov. Tilden intended to apply to the Library Trust would have been enough for a splendid equipment. When the will was broken, this amount was cut in half, even the $2,000,000 being saved to the trust by a compromise. Had not Mrs. Hazard released her claims to the trustees for $1,000,000, the purposes of Gov. Tilden would have suffered utter collapse.

Mr. Green and his fellow-trustees, while glad to save $2,000,000 for the trust, felt that the amount was insufficient for the establishment of a comprehensive, popular library. They had carefully studied the subject with the idea of learning not only what other libraries had to offer, but also what might be required for a complete equipment. No library that they examined met their ideas of what a library should be. When they began to lay plans for their own guidance and to estimate the cost of carrying them out they determined that the money at their command was not more than half enough for that purpose.

This conclusion had much to do with inspiring the bill that has now become a law. The trustees talked over the matter frequently before Mr. Green decided to prepare the bill. When at last he did so, he acted upon his own responsibility. His fellow-trustees were quite willing that he should take this step, but there was no formal sanction of it. They have not yet approved it in their capacity as trustees, although they have discussed it informally, as has Mr. Green, with various gentlemen interested in libraries or library work.

The law may be the means of establishing a great library, to which the Tilden Trust shall contribute, or its operation may not involve the Tilden Trust at all. The law is a general one, and the provisions may be made to apply to other libraries in which consolidation may be desirable. It will certainly not affect the Tilden Trust unless a project of consolidation can be devised which will furnish such an equipment as will meet the ideas of Mr. Green and his colleagues.

Such a library must, in its inception at any rate, promise to rank with the best of its kind. The Tilden trustees hope that the fund at their command may be utilized on the generous scale planned by Gov. Tilden. This fund is now large enough for a class library. It would fit out a reasonably complete scientific library. Such a library, in their opinion, however, would not be sufficient or satisfactory. At the same time they do not feel justified in going ahead with a comprehensive scheme with a fund inadequate to carry it to successful completion. There will be no haste in deciding what to do with the fund. Probably nothing will be determined for several months.

The general purposes of the new law are recited in the first section, as follows:

"Any corporation heretofore or hereafter organized under any general or special law of this State as a library company, or for the purpose of carrying on any library in the City and County of New-York, is hereby authorized to consolidate such company or companies with any other corporation organized for the same or similar purposes under any general or special law of this State, into a single corporation in the manner following: The respective Board of Directors or of Trustees of the said corporations may enter into and make an agreement for the consolidation of the said corporations, prescribing the terms and conditions thereof, the mode of carrying the same into effect, the name of the new corporation, the number of Trustees thereof, (not less than five nor more than twelve,) and the names of the Trustees who shall manage the concerns of the new company for the first year, and until others shall be elected in their places. If either of the companies so incorporating shall be a stock company, then the said agreement shall further prescribe the amount of capital of the new corporation, the number of shares of the stock into which the same is to be divided, (which capital shall not be larger in amount than the fair aggregate value of the property, franchises, and rights of the several companies thus to be consolidated,) and the manner of distributing such capital among such consolidated corporations or the holders of the stock of the same, with such other particulars as they may deem necessary."

The other sections provide for submitting agreements to stockholders, explain how the stock of dissenters shall be appraised and bought, and deal with details of organization. Upon consolidation all the rights, privileges, franchises, and interests of the several corporations, and every species of property, real, personal, and mixed, shall be vested in the new corporation, which shall assume all debts of each corporation and carry on or institute all proceedings in court for each. The new corporation shall be permitted to maintain and carry on any form of library authorized by the charter of either or any of the parties to the consolidation.

Sunday, April 24,

submission of the people to the regular. some regions where local militia mig have only increased the current excite ment has often been remarked. Where, especially, the action of State, county, or town authorities is under severe criticism, the regulars have the advantage of not being at all associated with the trouble by those who feel aggrieved. They have the General Government at their back, and submission to them, when acting under orders, is usually felt to be not a discredit, but a duty. This is certainly one of the reflections suggested by the recent proceedings in Wyoming.

THE TILDEN LIBRARY.

It is extremely gratifying that the beneficent intentions of Gov. TILDEN toward the people of New-York should not wholly have been frustrated by the efforts of his heirs at law, aided by his own failure to make his estate entirely proof against their attacks. The surrender by Mrs. HAZARD of much more than half her share of the estate leaves available for the library two millions of dollars, and leaves to that lady herself an ample competence. If the other heirs at law had been animated by the same spirit, the amount now available would have been not very far short of the whole amount in the contemplation of the testator as his residuary estate. This is due to the increase in the value of the estate during the five years that have elapsed since his death; and this increase is to be attributed in the first place to the sagacity with which Gov. TILDEN'S investments were made, and in the second place to the skill and fidelity of the executors and trustees, who are entitled to a large share of the gratitude due to a public benefactor, not only for their earnest efforts to execute the will of the testator, but also for having amassed so great a sum for public uses. Their names and the name of Mrs. HAZARD ought to be thankfully remembered, with the name of Mr. TILDEN, by those who shall get any benefit from the provision he tried to make for his fellow-citizens.

Two millions is not only not a contemptible sum for the institution of a public library; it is really a magnificent foundation, very nearly as large as that of the Newberry Library in Chicago, and a generation ago, before people had become familiarized with the vast fortunes of to-day, it would have been recognized as such. But for the public disappointment at the breaking of the Tilden will it would still be recognized as such. It is five times as much as the original endowment for the institution of the Astor Library, and it is a nucleus around which we may reasonably expect to gather one of the great libraries of the world. In fact, a given amount of money will go at least as far now as it would have gone forty years ago in making a collection of books, barring only the rare and curious publications, which advance in price with the lapse of time and with the amount of money available for articles of luxury. In regard to these, Gov. TILDEN'S own collection forms something more than an admirable beginning. But of course it is not in scarce editions and tall copies that the strength and the usefulness of a public library consist. It is to be hoped and expected that with the application of the fortune surrendered by Mrs. HAZARD, the opportunity will be taken that was neglected when the Lenox Library was formed of co-ordinating all the public libraries of New-York so that unnecessary duplication shall be avoided and so that the libraries of New-York shall among them contain as complete a collection as can be made of the literature of the world. There is no obstacle at all insuperable in the way of this purpose. It can be attained simply by an understanding, which need not even take the form of a set agreement, between the managers of the three free libraries which we shall possess when the Tilden Library is established. The new library being meant to be in the full sense of the term a "public library," differs in its [illegible] from the Astor, which

expressly intended as "a working [illegible] for studious persons," and from the Lenox, of which the precise public function is perhaps not generally understood. But with the increase of the collections of the three free libraries we shall soon have there is no reason why a New-Yorker who means to pursue any line of research whatever should not within a few years have facilities as ample as those which are now furnished to a Londoner by the British Museum or to a Parisian by the Bibliothèque Nationale. The Tilden Library will have advantages in its newness that very much outweigh the drawbacks that come from that source. The science of library management is very modern, and has nowhere been carried to a greater perfection than in the United States. In fact, European experts would probably agree that nowhere else has it been carried so far. It includes library architecture, as well as the collection and classification and cataloguing and management of books, and in all these respects every new library ought to show an advance upon its predecessors, so progressive is the science and so great and various the ingenuity that is devoted to its progress. If the Tilden Library gets the benefit of this progress, shorn as it will be of the proportions originally intended for it, it will still be one of the most useful of the libraries of the world.

It must be very grateful to the heiress who has made so handsome a surrender of her legal rights that this noble scheme might not be balked to know that her generous co-operation was necessary to its execution, and that those who are to feel themselves obliged by the use of the library will owe gratitude to a benefactress as well as to a benefactor. Conversely, the feelings of those heirs at law are not especially enviable who might have made up the endowment of the library to the sum contemplated by its founder and still have retained the means of a much ampler livelihood than they could have attained by their own exertions. But if Gov. TILDEN had the misfortune to be related to persons who had no scruples about frustrating his good intentions, he had also the good fortune to number among his kindred one wh

1892.----Twenty Pages.

was capable of making a generous sacrifice in order to execute those intentions.

PUBLIC LEDGER
AND DAILY TRANSCRIPT.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING
(EXCEPT SUNDAY)
AT THE
LEDGER BUILDING,
S. W. cor. Sixth and Chestnut sts.,
BY
GEORGE W. CHILDS.

NEW YORK BUREAU,
ROOM 184, PULITZER BUILDING.

WASHINGTON BUREAU,
517 FOURTEENTH STREET, N. W.

The LEDGER is served by the carriers to subscribers in the city of Philadelphia and surrounding Cities, Villages and Towns for **Twelve Cents a Week**, payable weekly to the carriers only by whom served, or will be sent by mail to any address out of the city for **Fifty Cents a Month.**

Philadelphia, Friday, August 4, 1893.

☞ Persons leaving the city during the summer can have the LEDGER mailed to them by ordering it at this office, either in person or by letter. Terms 13 cents per week, 25 cents for two weeks, or 50 cents per month, payable in advance.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The establishment of a few public libraries, by the help of the city, in school houses and other suitable locations, is now fairly begun. The fact that so much has been done is a good reason for the preparation of a more comprehensive plan for supplying good books to the reading public, young and old. In England a law has long been in force enabling each municipality to vote a tax to be devoted to the establishment of public libraries. A large number of generous gifts have provided the buildings, stately palaces, in Liverpool and Birmingham and other prosperous centres, while throughout the country village libraries have grown in number, importance and usefulness. In Germany and France, as usual, the initiative and the management are largely left to the Government, and, although its work is well done, it does not often invite help from without.

In this country the West and the New England States have been active in establishing public libraries, large and small. Every visitor to St. Paul and Minneapolis and to the growing towns and cities of the Pacific coast finds the public libraries well housed, well organized and well used. In Boston the public library is soon to be moved to its splendid new palace, a tribute alike to literature and to those who have made it accessible to a whole city of readers. Connected by modern appliances with the local libraries in a dozen of the growing suburbs of Boston, and with as many more delivery stations in and near the city, its half million volumes are made accessible to as many readers at the smallest cost of time and money. Massachusetts has a commission to provide public libraries in all its towns and villages, and a small part of a hundred dollars worth of well chosen books has been found the fruitful source of a large addition by way of gift and a growing use of the books. New York has made liberal provision from the State Treasury—like that of Pennsylvania, overflowing under a vicious system of taxes, which burthen the individual and are too often wasted in the improvident distribution by legislative grants—for local libraries, but, for want of the inspection and supervision provided by the Massachusetts laws, not always to the best advantage. Here in Pennsylvania, as long as our tax laws continue to fill the State coffers far beyond the State's needs, new methods of expenditure will have to be found. The Librarians' Association might do well to formulate a law providing for a State grant to every locality that will supply a suitable building or room, with responsible management, and permit the books to be freely opened to the use of the residents. Already Philadelphia has several large public libraries needing only money to make them really useful, and the State could not do better than to return to the city, by appropriation for their support, some portion of the large amount which the city contributes to the State Treasury. Until the Legislature modifies the tax system, by which so much more money is raised than is needed or can be judiciously spent for the proper uses of the State, those who are engaged in works of general utility should get what they can from the State. An organization of those interested in public libraries in the cities and in the towns, and in the country throughout the State, ought to be formed to secure from the Legislature a generous annual appropriation for local libraries, available alike for those now in existence and to secure the establishment of others in proportion to the needs of particular localities. Each appropriation might be made on the basis of the money in buildings and books already provided, or of the contributions either by local authorities or individuals. In this way the action of the State would invite an energetic response and insure a co-operation that could not but be fruitful of good results very quickly. Much has been done to provide special libraries, such as that of the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Drexel Institute and the University, but there still remains a large field of usefulness in providing small libraries of general literature, easily available in local centres. The city has begun the work, and the State may with great advantage continue and extend it, until in every town and in every school district there shall be a working public library, provided by a State grant and maintained by local subscription. In this way the State and the local authorities will co-operate, and, under a fair system of inspection, competent authorities can guide and watch and direct, so that the largest amount of good can be done at the least cost. Such a plan, well thought out and recommended by experts, ought to be submitted to the next Legislature, with such endorsement as should secure its prompt enactment into law and make it part of our educational methods for the people.

The library of the Drexel Institute is an excellent example of the organization and administration of a useful free library. It was part of Mr. Drexel's plan to provide a good working library for the teachers and pupils of the Institute, and each of its numerous departments is well represented in technical books on its shelves, and the periodicals take in the whole broad field of art, science and literature. Mr. Drexel, in his lifetime, made generous gifts for the purchase of expensive books, and, with the additional income which may be provided under his will, there will be money enough to keep pace with the newest books on every topic suggested in its courses of instruction. This fine library, admirably housed and well managed, is open to all the teachers and pupils, who can take the books needed in their work, and to the public generally, who can read at leisure in its comfortable quarters, and, under simple rules, take books out. Thus the foundation is laid for a library that will in due time be one of the best agencies of the Drexel Institute.

Public Library Service

To the Editor of "The Bulletin."

Sir: Is there not some method by which the public interests could be aroused for our famous Philadelphia free circulating library, that it might be made useful as well as entertaining? While I do not wish to criticise the service nor question the capabilities of the distinguished head of our great circulating institution, is there not some right and consideration due that class of our citizenship which frequently desires to make reference to a class of books of a more durable material than fugitive love stories and episodes of simpering maidens sighing out their lives in sniffling silence while chewing gum dudes suicide by drowning in a spoon? Is it not a fact that we are far behind as a library town? The remarkable report of the veteran publisher, D. Appleton, recently showed that even smoke-crested Pittsburg, with its foreign-born aroma and whirring mills, reads more books than Philadelphia. This, of course, may not be accurate, but it is significant as a matter of statistics. Philadelphia seems cursed by the declaration of Mr. Carnegie that we have our Widener and our Elkins, let them give us a library commensurate with our necessities. Why not Mr. Thomson, by sending a representative to Pittsburg for an investigation of the class of books offered the public in the Carnegie Library, and adopting some of their system, give us the much-needed improvements? While Mr. Thomson is there, it might not be amiss for him to observe the wonderful skill of the employes in the great Carnegie Library for assisting persons seeking information regarding books, etc. He might with profit infuse a little of that spirit into his own attaches. To illustrate: I had occasion to write a series of articles on the history of China, again on the growth of tea, again on the development of musical instruments, and again on the development of English words. This was while associated with the Sunday edition of a leading Pittsburg paper, the material being syndicated. As I wished to be accurate, I went to the Carnegie Library there, and by merely stating to a lady attendant that I wished any publications she might have on these subjects, I was very much surprised to have her immediately call off a number of standard authorities on each topic as if she were an expert in these lines. In unhappy contrast I was sorry to observe in my own city (Philadelphia) that when I wanted certain books that would be useful to me in ascertaining the history of breadstuffs, and interesting details connected therewith, in the affairs of men, I was informed by the young employe that she knew nothing about the matter—amazing simplicity—and the only thing that our famous library contained that would enlighten me was a very condensed publication sent free by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, and telling me how to make bread puddings from left-over dinners. This is written in no spirit of complaint or criticism, but simply as a suggestion to our city managers to bring about relief in a condition which I believe Mr. Thomson does not know exists. I no doubt express the feelings of many of that class of Philadelphians who love reading for information's sake, and who wish to be informed along various lines.

TALMAGE ALBERT.

FREE LIBRARIES.

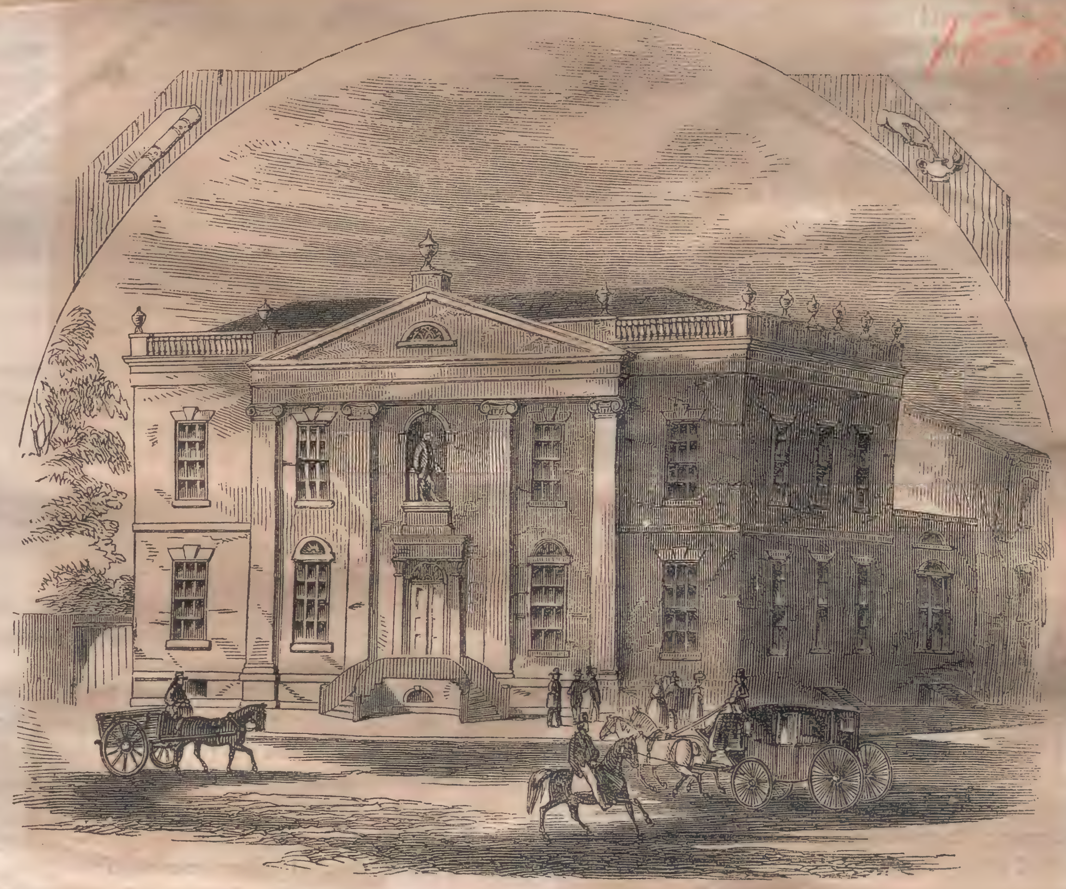
The 44th annual report of the Boston Public Library well deserves study with a view to the application of its lessons of experience. It has a new central library building that cost nearly two and a half millions, on land which cost half a million, given equally by the city and the State. It has over 600,000 volumes, of which 150,000 are in its nine branches. The annual expenses for 1895 were $175,000, of which $25,000 was spent for books, $10,000 for branches and $15,000 for binding, and it is estimated that for this year it will need $250,000 to meet the increased expense of its new building. It has only $200,000 of endowment, and much of this for special purposes—among others a newspaper department, with 200 American newspapers—all those published in Boston are gifts—and over 100 foreign papers. It employs nearly 200 persons in its daily service, and 50 for Sundays and evenings. It added 30,000 books to its shelves during the past year, many of them by way of gift.

There are in Boston and Cambridge 28 libraries, and plans are now on foot for such co-operation as will make the Public Library a clearing house, through which any book can be got from any library for the use of readers, and for a mutual agreement as to the purchase of expensive books, so as to avoid unnecessary duplication. Against these facts and figures, the result of over 40 years of growth in experience, Philadelphia points to its Free Library, with its short experience of only three years, its Central Library and its eight branches, its circulation third on the list, Boston and Chicago only leading it, and all this the result of a consolidation of the Pepper Free Library, with its endowment of a quarter of a million, more than Boston has accumulated in all these 40 years, and the libraries so successfully established by the Board of Education. Creditable as is this record of the Free Library of Philadelphia, it points to the necessity of a large and liberal appropriation and a permanent building for its growing Central Library.

There is something ludicrous in the contrast between the Philadelphia Free Library in its narrow quarters in old Concert Hall and the splendid dignity of the Boston Public Library. Even our local branches are poorly housed in comparison with those in and around Boston. Even more striking is the contrast with the importance of the buildings devoted to the Astor and Lenox Libraries, in New York, now consolidated with the Tilden Library, and thus disposing of an almost princely income, and likely to receive from the city grounds and building which will dwarf even the great Boston Public Library, with all its architectural beauty and its wealth of decoration by great artists. Baltimore points proudly to its Peabody and its Pratt Libraries, each endowed and doing its work with liberal means. Chicago has not only a good City Library, but it has two splendid libraries provided by individual benefactions—the Newberry and the Cregar Libraries—and all three work together in perfect harmony.

Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, all have good free libraries, and in most of the New England States, notably in Massachusetts and Connecticut, the State has helped establish free libraries in every town, supplementing local gifts by a wise and helpful grant of books. New York has, through its University Regents at Albany, made its splendid State Library the centre of a growing system of travelling libraries, a plan that is to be set on foot by the Free Library of Philadelphia through the generosity of a few friends, in the earnest hope that the State may in time show its appreciation of this work by substantial appropriations for its extension. Pittsburg has splendid libraries, the gift of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and Scranton and Wilkesbarre have good working libraries. Philadelphia has the oldest public library in the country, the Philadelphia Library, founded by Franklin, and doing good work in its way, but it can hardly be claimed that the old system of a proprietary library, circulating its books only among its stockholders and subscribers, even where it opens its doors freely to readers, is at all sufficient. The libraries in Philadelphia are numerous, and many of them are valuable and well managed, but their use is practically limited to the few persons comparatively who are entitled to enjoy them as members of the associations owning them. The Mercantile Library, the Apprentices' Library, the City Institute Libraries, are all very good in their way, but they are no more free to the whole community than the libraries of the Historical Society, of the College of Physicians, of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of the University, of the Drexel Institute—admirably suited for the students who are entitled to their use, but in no way meeting the need of the people of the city. The Free Library is so organized, and it needs only generous support by the city and by individual benefactions to put it on a broad and solid basis, so that it may keep pace with its rapid growth and develop into an educational factor in the life of the city of Philadelphia proportioned to its population, its wealth and its needs. What Boston and New York and Baltimore and Chicago and other cities have done in the matter of free libraries is largely due to the impulse given by individuals, supplemented by the wise help of public funds for such a purely public purpose. Philadelphia cannot remain indifferent to its needs in this matter, and the Pepper endowment ought to be a starting point for a rapid and successful establishment of the Free Library on a scale that shall be proportioned to the needs and resources of a city of a million of inhabitants, with abundant facilities for bringing home to them all the advantages of a great central library, and branches and delivery stations that will enable every man, woman and child to keep abreast of our growing literature. The beginning has been most auspicious, and now is the time for making provision for present needs and future growth of a really great Free Library.

1858



THE PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

another in your

PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

E FREE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN PHILADELPHIA.

WONDERFUL SUCCESS

s Popularity Shows That it Fills the Proverbially Long-Felt Want—The City Library and the Institute Founded on the Pepper Bequest.

The past three years, which have enriched Philadelphia with so many notable additions o her list of public institutions, have, peraps, launched no enterprise whose influence or good has been so subtle, so far reaching nd so quickly appreciated as the public free ibraries which, from end to end of the city nd out from its centre, are doing an educational work second only in extent and importance to that of the public schools.

Free libraries seem so natural and indeed so indispensable an adjunct to a system of free schools that the well-worked phrase, "a long-felt want," involuntarily suggested itself when the public library under the auspices of the Board of Education became an established project, and when, almost immediately on its heels, came the Pepper bequest to found a library, which—in the words which have been incorporated into its charter—"shall be for the people of Philadelphia, a general library, free to all."

Nevertheless it is hardly probable that even those most ardently interested in the movement would have predicted at the beginning the overwhelming tide of success in consequence of which the two branches of the Board of Education library, after respectively thirteen and seven months of existence, find themselves growing too large for their quarters, and the infant city library, which after two years' delay in tiresome litigation, expects to open on the first of the coming year, has already increased its space from one to three rooms in the Public Buildings.

HISTORY OF THE MOVEMENT.

The germ of the inspiration which supplemented our free schools with free libraries appeared first in tangible form in the City Councils. James R. Gates, of Germantown, then President of the Select Council, recommended in his annual address an appropriation for a public library, which should be absolutely free. The appropriation finally came, $15,000 in amount, but under the condition that the enterprise should be under the control of the Board of Education—a proviso whose wisdom has been shown by time.

This was in 1890, and two years passed before the appropriation could be made available. In the meantime a Free Library committee has been appointed by the Board of Education, consisting of Henry R. Edmonds, chairman; Simon Gratz, A. D. Harrington, H. H. Hubbert, R. L. Wright, Alexander Adaire and Thomas E. Merchant.

The question of location coming before this committee at an early stage, the Wagner Free Institute of Science, Seventeenth street and Montgomery avenue, offered the use of its building—another instance of wise provision. The offer was accepted, and the arrangement has worked to mutual benefit all along. Librarian Montgomery, of the institute, gave his services to the Public Library, and pleasant quarters were provided it in that part of the city most desirable for the working of the big experiment. In return the students of the institute, which has only a reference library, were accorded the advantages of a library which permitted them to take their books to their homes. Those in charge of the institute declare the effects of this establishment of the library in their midst to be strikingly apparent in the increased attendance at its lectures, the students numbering half as many more as before the library moved under its roof.

THE FIRST BRANCH OPENED.

"Branch No. 1," of the Philadelphia Public Library, as it is called, opened with all pomp and circumstance, including an appropriate ceremony and speeches by members of the Board of Education and other friends of the movement, at Wagner Institute on October 18, 1892. In its branch-forming policy the committee in charge of this enterprise reverse the usual method, which is to first found the central institution and afterward form branches as they are needed. Its intention is to work from the outside in, first forming branches in appropriate sections of the city, and building up the centre last of all, which the committee members conceive to be a much better and more effective way of securing a large area of readers. The old Boys' High School building, at Broad and Green streets, may very likely be chosen as the location of the central institution.

It is generally conceded that "figures talk," and they certainly speak eloquently in this case of the success with which the free library movement has been attended. Branch No. 1, as yet the most important one, has 12,000 books, of which 3,000 were donated by the old Mutual Library, which had recently retired from business. During its first year, just closed, 145,945 volumes were in circulation, which means the remarkable average of twelve times for the reading of each book, and is double the circulation figures of any library in Philadelphia. The $407 collected in fines during that time paid all the binding and other current expenses of the library. The largest number of books issued in any one day was 1,999, although on several days the number of people taking out books exclusive of the patrons of the reading room, was 1,000.

THE WORK GROWS.

With statistics like these confronting them it is not surprising that at the end of 1892 Councils were petitioned to increase the free library appropriation to $35,000, which they did, and the second branch was established in April, 1893, in the rooms of the South Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, Broad and Federal streets. In its little more than six months of existence this library has already outgrown its present accommodations and its 4,000 books have been in the hands of 43,077 readers. The membership up to date is 3,500. At the same time the committee began arrangements for the establishment of two other branches. One is in the building of the Northeast Young Men's Christian Association, which is having a room specially built for the purpose and where the library will be in operation very shortly; the other is in Manayunk, the exact location remaining an unsettled affair at present. It is probable that March of 1894 will find four branches in running order and the establishment of two others is contemplated, one at the Falls of Schuylkill, the other in West Philadelphia.

THE CITY FREE LIBRARY.

Independent in character, yet with the greatest harmony in aim and management, the "Free Library of Philadelphia"—more often called the City Library—is, by a very slight count, the junior of the organization which works under the Board of Education. The bequest, in 1890, of $250,000 by the late George S. Pepper for the founding of a free public library, east of the Schuylkill and south of Market street, stirred up a number of existing libraries into legal actions by which they endeavored to get the money donated to themselves. By the time the courts had decided that the bequest must be controlled by a new organization two years had been wasted.

A charter was obtained, under which were appointed fourteen trustees, including such well-known names as Dr. William Pepper, Samuel Wagner, George B. Roberts, Clarence H. Clark and Eugene Delano. To this number were added five city officials, who should be members of the board ex-officio—the Mayor, the Presidents of the Select and Common Councils, the president of the Board of Education, and the chairman of the committee on libraries of the same board. The authorities granted the library the use of room 163, in the City Hall, where it temporarily established itself in the spring of 1893 with its nucleus of over 1,500 volumes, the gift of Dr. Isaac Norris.

Librarian John Thomson, who teaches the class in library work at the Drexel Institute, is in charge and his assistants are all trained graduates of that class. The first order for books has been placed by the trustees and amounts to from 3,000 to 4,000 books, which are now being catalogued according to the Dewey decimal system, which has revolutionized library cataloguing and is in use at the Philadelphia public libraries also. The library is to be conducted somewhat on the plan of the immensely successful Boston Library and will make a specialty in the collection of public documents and one or two munificent offers of donations in this line have already been made.

Although the greatness of the City Free Library is yet in the future, as it will not be opened for circulating books until early in January, its prospects of usefulness are so encouraging that application to Councils for a $10,000 grant has already been made, has received the consideration of the finance committee and, it is hoped, has reasonable prospects of being favorably acted upon. The library has for some time been opened as a reading room with most gratifying results. Not only have a large number of readers made free use of it, but a large number of applications for membership in the circulating department, when it shall open, have already been filed.

Although outward co-operation between these two library organizations, so similar in their object, has not—at present at all events—been found practicable, yet the desire and intention of each is to work with the other harmoniously for the good of the public. As each covers a separate section of the city there is likely to be no interference, and as each has members on its board which are connected with the management of the other, no clashing is probable, but consultation and interchange of assistance instead. While maintaining its individuality as it was maintained by the Courts, the City Free Library has no desire to absorb other organizations, but to supplement and intelligently aid them. With this continuance of the free educational system thus putting a girdle around her limits, Philadelphia can boast that she leads, rather than follows, in providing opportunities for culture to all who will embrace them.

OTHER PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Before the inception, however, of this new movement, which is the public library idea in its broadened and perfected form, the Quaker City has always been in the line of progress in this direction. Throughout the United States 3,804 public libraries circulated 31,176,354 volumes through the hands of the people, an increase of 817 libraries and 12,111,280 volumes in the last six years, which shows the quickened interest in the library movement throughout the whole country, and out of this number this one city and her suburbs have the goodly representation of 99, eight of them founded between the years 1700 and 1800. The oldest is that of the Library Company of Philadelphia, which dates back to 1731.

While more than one-half of these libraries—fifty-six—are set down as free, and three as both free and subscription, they are not free public libraries in the sense in which the City Library and the Philadelphia Library are so defined. Many are attached to schools, seminaries, churches and institutions, and many more are restricted to books on technical or special subjects rather than general literature.

Phila Times Nov. 30, 1893

Plea for a Library.

To THE EDITOR OF THE PUBLIC LEDGER:—A few weeks ago the writer stood astonished and delighted upon the banks of that pestilent stream, "Gunner's Run," which, he has sometimes jocosely said, has caused many others than gunners to run. He saw a pile-driver laying the foundation for a sewer, part of which has since been built. The entire line south of Ann street will doubtless be enclosed before cold weather. Speed the day when all the remaining marshy territory, with its perilous gases and disgusting odors and sights so long a reproach to Philadelphia, shall be sewered and drained.

There has recently been promised to this large district of Richmond its first open square. This is well located and will be greatly appreciated, but there should be another, which would overlook the river, as does Treaty Park in East Kensington. Unfortunately the railroads have pre-empted the entire river front at this point, so that but one wharf for public use remains—at Allegheny avenue. This is the more to be regretted, as Fairmount Park is at the antipodes.

But I write in behalf of Richmond for a branch of the public library. No other section of the city has a better claim, for it is exclusively a place of cosy homes for working people, possessing not one of those public advantages of which cities are justly proud. It is virgin soil for the exercise of such beneficence as the Apprentices' Library perennially shows.

It is a luxury to enter a library where one has personal access to every book; where he may read all day and where he may obtain books for home use without cost and under the simplest of systems.

Give Richmond the great boon of a library the exact counterpart of the highly attractive branch in Kensington, and, side by side with the physical benefits of the closing of an open sewer, there will be the moral blessings which flow from [illegible] fountain of knowledge.

Philadelphia, July 30, 1894. A. W. Q.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Will you permit me to call attention to an error in your notice (July 12, p. 28) of my 'Public Libraries in America'? You make it appear that I state that New Hampshire has passed a law requiring towns to establish and maintain public libraries. I only said that such a law had been presented to the Legislature of the State and ably advocated by its author, a member of the State Library Commission. That such a law can actually be passed in any State for some years to come is very doubtful.

W. I. Fletcher.

[illegible], Mass., July 19, 1894.

---

* *

Librarian William Kite, of the Friends' Free Library, in Germantown, thought he saw in William H. Walton, of No. 4633 Wayne street, a careful young student in ornithology, as he always sought books treating on the science of birds in his frequent visits to the library. But Walton's thirst for knowledge in this direction seemed to have ulterior motives, and it got him into trouble yesterday. Learning that Mrs. Emily Bussier, of No. 115 Harvey street, Germantown, possessed a collection of the eggs of rare birds, he determined to become booked up on their forms, species, etc. He called on Thursday in company with another young man and examined the eggs, which were valued at $50, and said he would call again for their purchase. Watching his opportunity, he entered the house again and carried away the eggs without carrying the negotiations for purchase further. A girl in the house happening to enter the Friends' Library yesterday saw the youth who stole the eggs. Retiring unobserved, she explained the case to Policeman Mullen, who was passing the building, and when the egg thief got on the outside he was suddenly arrested. Magistrate Donnelly committed him in default of $800 bail, charging him with the larceny of 60 eggs. Walton said his companion had the eggs, but refused to give his name or residence.

* *

A Tragic Sequel to the Vatican Library Sensation.

A Rome correspondent writes to the St. James Gazette as follows: You may perhaps have heard of the recent theft of precious illuminated parchments at the Vatician Library. The robber, the soi-disant Professor Sordi, has indirectly become a murderer, for it is certainly to the anxiety and pain caused by the ruthless mutilation of his bibliographic treasures that we must attribute the sudden death of Monsignor Carini, the prefect of the Vatican Library. This eminent prelate, though comparatively young—being only about fifty—was known and respected in the scientific world for his learned writings on historical, palæographic, and theological subjects, and belonged to several scientific academies both in Italy and abroad. The theft of the parchments brought down an avalanche of annoyance and trouble on the quiet, peaceful savant, and he bravely supported the weary interrogations of the police officials and the assaults of prying reporters. But the coup de grace came to him when he was called before a committee of cardinals, one of whom, the Jesuit Mezzarella, harshly threw upon him all the blame of what had occurred.

This was too much for the poor Monsignor. His Sicilian blood got the better of his love for the grand library which was his greatest pride and care, and he rushed out of the room exclaiming, "Very well, I shall resign." But the blow had been too painful, and a few hours later, when at his place in the chapter of St. Peter's singing vespers with the other canons, Monsignor Carini sank down in a swoon, and was carried into the court of St. Damascus, where he expired without regaining consciousness.

Herr V[illegible]

REFERENCE LIBRARIES.

The executors of the late John Crerar, of Chicago, who willed about $2,000,000 for the establishment of a library in that city, have practically decided to use the fund for building up a reference library. They argue that Chicago has already enough circulating and general libraries and that a new one would only duplicate those now in existence. This is undoubtedly a sagacious view of the situation. Chicago has a fine public library with some 200,000 volumes intended for general circulation; the Newberry Library, partly circulating and partly reference; the Chicago University Library, largely historical and theological, and some twenty or more smaller collections of books, most of which have been gathered without any particular object in view.

With such a wealth of general and circulating libraries the wisdom of making the Crerar Library one for reference and research is easily apparent. It is not so much the want of books that troubles the American public to-day as it is the right kind of books and where to get them readily and easily. The old-fashioned circulating library has been largely superseded, at least in cities. When a set of the histories of Gibbon or Macaulay or Hume, or of the works of the leading novelists like Scott, Dickens, Thackeray or George Eliot, could not be bought for less than $20 or $25, loaning libraries were in demand. It needed a year or two's savings of a struggling student or of a working man to purchase a complete edition of one of these authors and in most cases their ownership was reluctantly surrendered and the pleasure of possession denied.

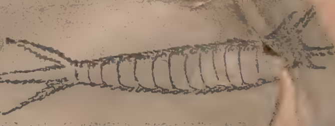
Now, however, cheap but good and serviceable editions of all these authors' works, and in fact of nearly every publication that comes into general use, can be bought at a price that puts them within the reach of nearly the whole reading public. When copies of the writings of the best novelists sell at 10 and 25 cents a volume and are piled mountain high on the shelves and counters of booksellers, the demand for circulating libraries whose patrons have always been the readers of fiction is not apparent. Ten dollars a year judiciously expended will supply a family with the lighter kind of reading matter and give the owner the additional pleasures of loaning and recommending his favorite authors to friends and neighbors, and of gaining a reputation for having a discriminating taste in literature.

In this situation the multiplication of circulating libraries is a waste of money and effort. But of good reference libraries a community is not likely to have too many. This country has very few now and their increase has has not been at all encouraging during the past twenty years, certainly not in proportion to the growth of the nation in wealth and population. It must be remembered also that much of the material for the making of reference libraries is constantly growing smaller instead of larger. Books that cannot be replaced are constantly wearing out, while the demand for them becomes greater. An instance of how valuable a work of reference may be was given recently in the gift of a complete set of Hansard's Parliamentary debates to the University of Pennsylvania by ex-Minister Potter, of this city. This is a work which every library in the country would be proud to possess, and yet the set now on the shelves of the University in West Philadelphia is the last that can be bought.

Philadelphia has a number of book collections, some one of which might be made the foundation of a complete reference library that would be of more service than all the so-called libraries the city now possesses. If these books were brought together in some accessible place, systematically arranged and made ready for easy reference and provision made for growth, the chief library lack of the city would be supplied. It does not need a costly building to make a library or a large endowment fund to keep a reference library in running order. Books u[illegible] simply for reference are subjected but little wear and tear, and the expense of looking after such a collection is much less than in the case of a circulating library. The sum of $500,000, which has more [illegible] spent in this city for some costly folly, would be sufficient to furnish a building, begin a collection of reference books, and provide a moderate endowment which would undoubtedly be added to from time to time. Let us hope that some Philadelphia John Crerar will supply this city with this want.

The Fifth Known in
Found by a Bibli

Felix Peltier, a bibl
the Schenectady road,
Albany, says the New Y
discovered in an old bo
hymns a prize dear to
booklover—a bookworm. T
bookworm found in this
which there is any record:
white worm, about three-
inch long and one-eighth
diameter. Its head is blu
tail tapers to a sharp po
color of water mixed wi
lies motionless until dist
raises itself suddenly,



Mr. Peltier's Bookw

stantly resumes its p
the pages. Protruding
the leaves and attach
the worm is a co
This cocoon whe
microscrope ap
leg cases; and th
barely perceptib
the head of t
horns thinner t
are five rings a
ture of the she
that one can

A YOUNG

to the Astor Library,

The Libraries of Philadelphia.

☞Mr. Norton, in his "Literary Register for 1854," devotes several pages to the Libraries of Philadelphia. The oldest he describes to be that of the "Carpenters' Company," situated in Carpenter's Court. The Society was established in 1724, and the Library commenced with imported architectural works at the same time. The Library Company of Philadelphia was instituted in 1731, by Dr. Franklin. The present building, in Fifth street, below Chesnut, was erected in 1790, to accommodate the slowly but steadily increasing wants of the collection. The latter has gradually grown, by the annual purchase of the best English and American, together with some Continental and other books, and the successive incorporations of the Union Library in 1744, the Association Library in 1771, the Loganian Library in 1782, the Library of the Rev. Samuel Preston (bequeathed) in 1804, that of William Mackenzie (partly bequeathed) in 1829, that of James Cox in 1832, and the Library of Foreign Literature and Science in 1840, to the size of about 65,000 volumes, and those not the temporary trash too often found in circulating libraries, but works of real merit. For the last 122 years, the Library has never been without an agent in London, who purchased the best books as they came out, and sent them over. "The Library of the American Philosophical Society" is in the second story of their building, in Fifth street, below Chesnut, opposite to the Philadelphia Library.

This Society owes its foundation to Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who, in May, 1743, drew up and issued a prospectus, entitled "A proposal for the promotion of useful knowledge among the British Provinces of North America." This resulted in the formation of a Philosophical Society, which in 1768 was united to the "American Society for promoting and propagating useful knowledge," the two being incorporated in 1780, under the style of "The American Philosophical Society for promoting useful knowledge." The Library contains over 20,000 volumes in various languages, many of which are rare and valuable.

The "Library of the Academy of
Sciences" is in a room on the groun
their edifice in Broad street, below
The Academy of Natural Sciences wa
ed January, 1812, and the library con
in April of the same year, with a fe
given by John Speakman and Dr. Ma
number of volumes at present is about
mostly relating to the natural science
cluding many costly folio works of p
natural history, and 2,500 volumes o
actions of learned Societies, &c.

The Library of the Philadelphia At
occupies the second story of their h
building (erected in 1847,) situated
street, below Walnut. The Athena
founded in 1813, by a few young men, as a reading room, and now contains over 12,000 volumes, including a number of bound sets of newspapers and periodicals, and a collection of pamphlets bound in 148 volumes, which belonged to Dr. Franklin, and are enriched with his notes. Between the library saloon and the newspaper room is an apartment furnished with chess tables, which is frequented by amateurs of that game.

The Apprentices' Library Chmpany has its rooms in the second story of the Free Quakers' Meeting House, at the S. W. corner of Fifth and Arch streets. The Company was incorporated April 2, 1821. In 1841 a separate department was established for girls. The two branches contained, in January, 1853, 14,036 vols. The Library is open for boys, on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings, about 2½ hours each; for girls, on Thursday afternoon, from 3 to 7, and on Saturday afternoon from 3 to 6. Apprentices and others, under 21 years of age, are allowed the use of the books gratis, on the guarantee of a respectable citizen. In the year 1852, the surprising number of 23,938 books were loaned from the boys' library, and 19,067 from the girls'—total, 43,005. The library is used by 937 boys, and 670 girls.

The Mercantile Library occupies the second story of the Company's building, at the S. E. corner of Fifth and Library streets, erected in 1844–45, at a cost of $23,199 42. The Mercantile Library Company of Philadelphia was formed in 1821. It now possesses about 14,000 vols., and the number circulated in 1852, was 35,900. It is open from 3 o'clock, P. M., until 10.

The Library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania occupies a room in the third story of the Athenæum building, at the corner of Sixth and Adelphi streets. The Society was formed in 1825. The Library contains about 2,000 vols. It is open at all times to members.

Various other particulars are given in relation to our Libraries, and the following recapitulation is made:

Carpenters' Company has -	500 vols.
Library Company of Philadelphia and Loganian, - -	65,000
Friends', - - -	5,300
Philosophical Society, - -	20,000
Pennsylvania University, -	4,000
Hospital, - - -	11,000
German Society, - -	8,000
Law Association, - -	5 300
Academy of Natural Sciences,	15,000
Athenæum, - -	12,000
College of Pharmacy, -	700
Apprentices' Library, -	14,000
Mercantile " - -	14,000
Historical Society, - -	2,000
Friends', - - -	4,000
Franklin Institute, - -	5,000
Horticultural Society, -	1,500
Baptist Publication, - -	1,200
Presbyterian " - -	1,500
Episcopal Reading Room, -	500
Five Institutes, - -	10,000
Various Debating Societies (at least) - - -	3,000
Churches, Sunday Schools, &c. (say), - - -	25,000
Public Schools, - -	10,000
Total, - -	238,500

or not far from a quarter of a million of volumes.

Large Sales—Valuable Stores, Dwellings

The Philadelphia Library.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY, containing 65,000 volumes, is perhaps, all things considered, the most valuable in the country. The catolgue classifies these treasures of wisdom and antiquity

THE ADVOCATE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1856.

PHILADELPHIA,

works in this extensive library, from the electric spark elicited from the cloud by Franklin to the navigation of the Polar Seas by Kane.

The importance of this collection to our citizens is vast. Its destruction would be a public calamity. It could never be replaced. The lovers of literature would shudder to find the ponderous tomes of by-gone ages and the treasures of Greece and Rome, with all that modern science has invented and recent art improved, entrusted to the precarious and unsafe, though hitherto, for more than half a century, favored buildings not rendered *fire-proof*.—Doubtless the attention of the intelligent wealthy and liberal citizens, will be called to this state of things, and such means used as will defend our city' boast from the deplorable fate of the Alexandrian or the Congress Library, and save the volumes pondered over by Washington and Franklin, to the present generation of enlightened and grateful posterity.

EVENING BULLETIN.

MONDAY, MAY 9, 1859.

The Loganian Library.

America can scarcely produce an example so remarkable for its importance in a literary point of view, particularly when we consider the period of the gift, as the endowment of the Loganian Library in Philadelphia. What adds interest to the circumstances connected with it, is the fact that, in 1861, the endowment is to become of importance. The case is this:

James Logan, President of the Council of Pennsylvania under William Penn, and his confidential friend and adviser, was the most learned man of the Province, and possessed a library then and for a long time after unrivalled in the country for its importance, both in number and rarity of volumes. He prepared a deed giving it to the public, and endowing it with seven hundred acres of the best land in Bucks County, Pa., but he did not live (died 1751) to sign it. His children, and son-in-law, however, thought it right to carry out his intentions, and did so, deeding the land then under a rental of 110 years of only $125, and the books to the public *forever*. The library, thus for a long time possessed of so very small an income, was kept open for public use, William Logan, the son, acting as Librarian gratuitously, and opening it once a week.

Finally, it was deemed best to attach the institution to the Philadelphia library, by act of the Legislature, the heirs uniting in the act. Here it has been kept in a separate room for a period of sixty-five years, and now consists of 10,000 volumes of rare and valuable works, and is especially rich in the Fathers, Medicine, and the Classics, and contains very many books of value not found elsewhere in this country; it is slowly increasing under the charge of the hereditary trustees, and the directors of the Philadelphia library, who are ex-officio also trustees.

Now, the interest felt by the public in this superb endowment is this: What is the exact date when the old ground rent expires, and what may be the probable increase to be derived from this fine body of land, when the hundred and odd years elapse.

On inquiry at the library itself, from its Librarian, who is a descendant (great-great grandson) of James Logan, I learn that the present hereditary Trustees of this fine institution are as follows:—(and it is a striking variety in the history of our public establishments, that they continue to be useful members and deeply interested in the success of the establishment): 1. Gustavus George Logan. 2. John Dickinson Logan, M. D., great-great grandsons of the founder, and also grandsons of Governor John Dickenson, the author of the "Farmer's Letters," and of esteemed Revolution-memory, and the founder of Dickinson College, Pennsylvania; and, 3. John Jay Smith, a great grandson of Logan, whose grandfather married Hannah Logan, and united in passing over to the public this large property in land and books.—

T. T.

Historical Magazine.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN PHILADELPHIA.

There are no less than forty-three public libraries in this city, besides the vast number of collections of books belonging to societies like the Odd Fellows, and the numberless literary associations composed of young men. In this vast fountain of learning, the chief ornament is the Philadelphia and Loganian Library, with its cloister-like alcoves and hushed and high ceiled apartments, wherein repose in silence and dignity sixty-four thousand nine hundred books!

Next comes the library of that noble institution, the Academy of Natural Sciences, with its twenty-five thousand volumes, in every domain of natural history and physical science. No library of a similar character of equal value exists anywhere in the world, we believe. The American Philosophical Society possesses a library of twenty thousand volumes, many of which have afforded material help to the most distinguished *savans* of America, from FRANKLIN and RITTENHOUSE to KANE and HAYES.

The actively managed and energetic Mercantile Library possesses sixteen thousand five hundred books of a live kind, while its chess room and newspaper reading room are delightful features of its own. Next we have the Apprentices' Library, with its sixteen thousand two hundred and twenty-six volumes, which have delighted generation after generation of boys and girls, some of whom, doubtless, now repose in the quiet graveyard over which the edifice of the Library keeps watch and ward.

The Athenæum boasts thirteen thousand books on its shelves, and it has long been the resort of the readers of grave quarterlies, and the participants in quiet though strongly contested chess matches. The library of that beneficent institution, the Pennsylvania Hospital, is composed of eleven thousand volumes, though we doubt whether the books have furnished more food for reflection to the mass of our readers than the local items about accidents and murders which our reporters nightly gather at the Hospital gate-house.

The Southwark Library Company owns eight thousand two hundred and thirty seven books, intended for general reading, and we may safely pronounce it one of the most popular and useful libraries in the city.

The collection belonging to the Franklin Institute numbers six thousand nine hundred and sixty-two, by the latest catalogue. There are vast numbers of technical works in this collection.

The German Society gives a list of no less than eight thousand volumes; while the Friends' Library Association comprises five thousand three hundred, and the Law Association are the possessors of five thousand three hundred uniform looking volumes, full of rules, and precedents, and opinions which have made grand commotions among lawyers and juries. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has, in the course of its career, accumulated four thousand two hundred and fifty books, to say nothing of its other valuable relics of the past.

In the classic walls of the University of Pennsylvania (including the Philomathean and Zelosophic books), are deposited seven thousand nine hundred and fifty books while the Wagner Free Institute, though of modern growth, reports seven thousand books in its library already! The Library of Friends (not the Association of Friends, mentioned above,) reports five thousand three hundred as its number of books, and the American Sunday-School Union has a collection of six thousand.

The other public libraries contain volumes ranging from two hundred (some of them, like those at the Mint, very valuable) up to three thousand, as follows:—American Baptist Publication Society, 1200; Carpenters' Company, 1500; Central High School, 1075; Christ Church, 784; College of St. Thomas, 2000; Eastern Penitentiary, 2300; Episcopal Library, 500; Free Reading Room, Spring Garden, 1400; Girard College, 3163; Institute for Colored Youth, 1500; Mechanics' Institute, Southwark, 2700; Moyamensing Literary Institute, 2831; Academy of the Fine Arts, 200; Horticultural Society, 1050; Hospital for the Insane, 3500; Philadelphia City Institute, 1500; Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, 1000; Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1500; Presbyterian Historical Society, 1500; Public Library for People of Color, 1300; Spring Garden Institute, 3250; United States Mint, 250; West Philadelphia Institute, 2403; and Young Men's Christian Association, 2500.

The grand total of books in public libraries in this city is placed at 272,412 by the figures given ab It is under rather than over the true statement.

Written Expressly for Fitzgerald's City Item.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.

A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Valuable Treasures, Late Accessions and Future Usefulness.

It is no less useful than curious, to look back through the years of the past, and contemplate the origin of a Library, the greatest and most valuable in our city, and, in many respects, the most so of any in the country. Many a Philadelphian, who would feel much offended were any to question his intelligence or acquaintance with the Literary Institutions of his native city, passes Fifth and Library Street every day, and looks up every now and then, at the fine Marble Statue of Franklin,* that reposes quietly in its niche, at the entrance, and thinks, or dreams, or muses, or reflects no more about the accumulated treasures of literature that have been silently filling its shelves for ages, are now filling them, and will continue to fill, than the red man of by-gone days did of a steam impelled boat, or railway car, on, or on the margin of, his native Delaware. Yet, the literati from all parts of the Continent have exulted to find rare work, here, found nowhere else this side of the Atlantic, and, perhaps, not even existing in that astonishing collection called the British Museum Library.

It is our intention to say a few words about a collection we have often visited, often with pleasure mingled with profit, and to all parts of which, by the kind permission of the Librarian, Mr. Lloyd P. Smith, a gentleman whose politeness and intelligent kindness so well qualify him for his official station, we have had free access when we pleased, from "ten o'clock, till sunset."

From the minutes of Joseph Brointall, Secretary to the Directors of the Library Committee of Philadelphia, it appears that on the 8th of November, 1731, the Directors met at 5 o'clock, at the house of Nicholas Scull, to take a bond of the Treasurer for the faithful performance of his trust, and appoint a proper time for the payment of money subscribed. The price of a share was fixed at forty shillings, and ten persons paid the amount the first evening of attendance. The Subscriptions in hand amounting to half the original sum intended, on March 29th, 1732, it was thought best to get the books at once. With the advice of Mr. James Logan, a list was made out, and Robert Grace, to "expedite the affair," "agreed to draw on Peter Collinson mercer, in Gracious Street, London, for £45 sterling, at 65 per cent, advance the current rate," in favor of, and to be remitted to, Thomas Hopkinson, then about sailing for England, with directions to purchase as many volumes as he could for the money.

In 1732, the first importation of books was received, by Captain Carnahan, in good order. At this time, "there was no book-sellers' shop nearer than Boston." The books were taken to the house of Robert Grace, in Jones' Alley, and Dr. Franklin made out a Catalogue. Louis Timothee, was first Librarian, and occupied Grace's house, at a salary every three months of "three pounds lawful money, certain," and a further "reasonable reward." He was permitted to allow "any civil gentleman to peruse the books of the library, in the library-room, but not to lend to, or suffer to be taken out of the library by any person who is not a subscribing member, any of the said books, Mr. James Logan excepted." The same is permitted by present courtesy. In 1732, several new applicants were admitted, and in 1733, William Rawle, the first American donor, presented six volumes of Spenser's Works.

In 1737, John Penn presented the Company with the grant of a lot of ground for their library, and an air pump, which excited great curiosity among the City fathers, was presented by the same gentleman the next year following. In 1739, the members increased to 74. In 1740, the Assembly permitted the books to be removed to the upper-room of the westernmost office of the State House, and it was agreed to procure a dozen sheep-skin covers for folio books to keep them clean when lent out. In 1741. John Penn, Esq., presented the Library with a microscope and camera obscura, and Thomas Penn, Esq., with a telescope and valuable books in 1752. In 1769, the library, by the accession of the Union Library Company, of Philadelphia, was much increased, and in 1771, another junction was formed with the Association Library Company. The second floor of Carpenters' Hall was rented in 1773, and the books removed from the rooms in the State House, now too small for their accommodation. The British Army had possession of Philadelphia, from Sept. 26th, 1777, to June 18th, 1778. No loss was sustained, the officers invariably leaving deposits and paying hire for the books. The Library room was occupied, in 1777, by sick soldiery. In Nov. 1783, Dr. Franklin presented six volumes of the Natural History of the South of France. In April, 1784, a proposal was made to unite in the same building, the Library known as the Loganian, being a collection of Hon. James Logan governor of the province, and friend of Penn. A plan being digested by the Philosophical Society, to petition the Legislature for a lot, on the State House square, they wished the company to join in an application for a similar site. The plan was "that the Philosophical Society should have 80 feet front, by 40 deep on Sixth street, midway between Walnut and Chestnut streets, and to the said Library a like space of ground on Fifth street, and directly opposite the former, for the purpose of erecting buildings thereon, at the expense of said Societies respectively. This plan would have had advantages, but was abandoned, and in 1787, the present site was purchased by Mary Norris and Dr. Logan, on ground rent, since paid off.

The first stone was laid in 1789, and in 1790, on Dec. 30th, the books were all removed. The Library has received many great accessions since, and it contains 65,000 volumes, besides a book of Patents, in 400 vols., lately presented by the British Government through Hon Mr. Dallas. Among the curiosities is a colossal bust of Minerva, that stood behind the Speakers' Chair in the First Congress under the Constitution, Oliver Cromwell's clock, a clock and desk of William Penn, lately presented, and an ancient picture of the City, presented by the Hon. Geo. M. Dallas. We examined the original articles of Association, dated July 1st, 1731, bearing the autographs of Grace Franklin, and many others. It gives the motto of the Company's Seal, still in use—COMMUNITER BONA PROFUNDERE DEUM EST. To particularize the works of such a collection or even the rare ones would require a volume. But all that is valuable in History, Literature, the Sciences, and Arts, finds a place there, from the ponderous times of antiquity, to the Kane Expedition.

This Library will continue the great Library of the country, so far as ancient, rare and useful works are concerned. An attempt has recently been made to get a subscription of $20,000 towards a Fire-Proof Building.—Several liberal citizens have subscribed to the amount of over $17,000, and it is to hoped the design will be carried into effect, and the Library, one of the greatests boasts of the city, be preserved to posterity.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1898.

Men and Things

THERE are few of us in Philadelphia who fully realize the extent, as well as the beneficial character, of the work which has been going on under the auspices of the Free Library. I was not long ago surprised to learn that already it had begun to circulate more books in this city than any other free library in the country, not even excepting the great one in Boston, after its existence of more than fifty years. It has been less than six years, or during Mayor Stuart's administration, that the first official movement was made toward creating such a library as a part of our municipal system. Fifteen thousand dollars was the modest appropriation with which it came into being. There were many predictions that it would be an entire failure, and that the good old Apprentices' Library, as well as the small rates for the use of the extensive collection of the Mercantile Library, would fulfil all the needs of those who wanted books free, or nearly free. But the fact is that even supporters of the movement have been surprised at the popular favor which has greeted it almost from the beginning. The old Concert Hall, on Chestnut street, has been used for many purposes in music, religion and politics in the past forty years, but never has it been a scene of such useful activity as now may be witnessed there day after day on the part of the many who are striving for the benefits of self-culture.

* * * *

It is difficult to believe that, despite the sneers and opposition which the library met and its comparative want of facilities, its distribution in the homes of Philadelphia during the past year was upward of *one million and a half volumes.* It has had no elaborate quarters; its shelves represent chiefly the accumulations that have been made in a few years, and many of its departments are still incomplete, even in a popular sense. Yet every one of the 160,000 volumes in the library and its branches in West Philadelphia, Roxborough, Germantown, Frankford, Nicetown and other parts of the city was on an average taken out about ten times over!

* * * *

It is also highly gratifying that an unusually large proportion of the books taken out represent the best thought in literature. Indeed, the principle which has guided the stocking of the shelves has been to make the library attractive without yielding too far to the demand for the inferior or ephemeral lines of fiction. The taste of its readers may be judged from the fact that nearly 90,000 volumes on literature were read last year, and more than 135,000 in history, biography and travel. That this Free Library tends to lead the people in the direction of solid thinking is shown in the circulation of not fewer than 44,000 volumes on subjects pertaining to Sociology. In all libraries of a miscellaneous character the demand for fiction far exceeds the demand for all other kinds of books combined. It probably represents throughout the country about seventy per cent. of the whole. But the "fiction" of the Free Library excludes all trash. Thus, while a reader has the privilege of taking two books at a time to his home, only one must be a novel. The philosophy of Librarian Thomson on this subject is that the ordinary reader cannot usefully read more than fifteen to twenty-five pages of a solid book in any one day—that is to say, if he attempts to read more, he will fail to get the best out of the book. "Now," says Mr. Thomson, "a person who reads the Erdmann's 'History of Philosophy,'' the works of Herbert Spencer, Hallam's Constitutional History, or some of the great modern books on chemistry, biology or engineering, requires considerable time to get through the books with benefit, and it would be very absurd to say that whilst he was perusing these books he should be cut off from the opportunity of reading some of the lighter books dealing with history, travel, electricity or biography under the pleasanter form of a novel as relaxation between the hours of harder udy. No one will regard "Romola" as rticularly light reading. Yet for want differentiation it is classed under the sest of all generic titles as fiction, and a lad of twenty gets no more credit for having studied "Savonarola" under the pleasant guidance of George Eliot than he does for reading the "Prisoner of Zenda."

* * * *

A bibliophile of much discernment assured me recently that the shelves of the Free Library contained many more books of a high order of subjects than are ordinarily to be found in such institutions. This judgment is confirmed by Mr. Thomson's remark that in Concert Hall may be found such works as "Russian Antiquities," Somerard's "Les Arts au Moyen Age," Ongania's "San Marco," Pistolesi's "Il Vaticano" and Gavard's "Galeries Historiques de Versailles" and others of like character. During the past year or two fifty thousand dollars has been expended for books, and the result now is what may be fairly called a good general collection—the nucleus of what may in a few years be made a library of unsurpassed value for the people and not without interest to the man of affairs and the scholar. At any rate, it is a free library, which really reaches the people for whom it is intended. It is not a literary morgue; nor is it such a curiosity shop as our Mr. Allibone in his later years presided over in one of New York's fine libraries, where his chief function was to write autographs for young ladies and to invite contemplation to the profound learning in the "Dictionary of Authors."

* * * *

I have never been quite able to understand why so much prejudice should be fomented in as intelligent a city as Philadelphia against this library, or, rather, against the proposition that it shall be housed in a suitable building not unworthy of a great city. Yet among many of the Philadelphians who should be the first to welcome it for their self-education, or as a help in the education of their children there has been cultivated a singularly absurd opposition to it on the ground that it would be a "luxury." It sometimes makes a broad-minded man a little impatient when, after he has seen the magnificent Library Building in Copley Square, on which Boston spent two million dollars, or the new Library building which Chicago has built on the shore of her blue lake, he listens to some of his fellow-Philadelphians at this late day telling "the poor man" here that a Free Library is a "superfluity," and that the expenditure of a million dollars upon it for a building would perforce be an "extravagance." I am personally a believer in that part of the old Jeffersonian doctrine that the government—a city government, of course, included—should not expend its money on any purpose which private enterprise can serve better or as well. But it is highly questionable whether in the modern complexities of a great city the establishment of a library for the people is not an undertaking which can produce better results when under the direction of the municipality—just as Fairmount Park, for example, has been infinitely more useful and wholesome as a great free or public domain than all the "parks" and "gardens" which in former years were carried on by private enterprise. It is easy enough to concede the justice of the argument sometimes made against free libraries that they encourage omnivorous or undigested reading, and that they cause such foolish boasts as those of Vice-President Wilson, when he used to say that he had read a thousand books while he was shoemaker lad, and probably he didn't know a dozen of them well when he had reached his manhood. But the abuse of a privilege is not always an argument against the right use of it, and the careless readers through whose minds the contents of a book will go like water through a sieve are not to outweigh those who try to taste, chew or digest. Then, again, we hear the "expense" of a library building and its maintenance! Why, bless your soul! we can put up one with the money we give the Public Buildings Commission for the annual supply of gingerbread on the City Hall, and maintain it every year at a cost of three or four cents per capita of our population! I sometimes fancy that I am living in a backwoods village up in Pike county when I hear in one of the first cities in the Union all this tedious blather about "waste" and "luxury" over the simple proposition that Philadelphia shall not be behind a half dozen other cities in providing for its people a seat of intellectual pleasure and advancement.

* * * *

The Free Library has been a success because it has thus far been managed with common sense and a tactful perception of the popular taste. It has been made as accessible as possible to all at nearly all hours of the day. Its cases are not locked or barred. It has faith in the honesty of the average seeker after knowledge. What the people have been reading in the newspapers day after day about the Spanish war has caused them to go thither by the thousands in quest of maps, geographies, encyclopaedies and books on the army and navy. It is becoming more and more an integral portion of our system of public education in its relation to teachers and scholars. Those who have opposed the library have contended that it might become like the splendid building on Broad street built with Dr. Rush's bequest. Indeed, I have often regretted that it should have been for twenty years a mausoleum, which may not echo the footsteps of a dozen Philadelphians in a day. But we must remember that Dr. Rush would allow no fiction to enter its sacred precincts; that he proscribed newspapers as "vehicles of disjointed thinking," and that it has not been intended to be more than a "reference library," although few know of the fine old treasures which it contains. As for our Free Library, it has already shown that it possesses the most numerous constituency that any library in Philadelphia now has, and that it is no longer an experiment.

* * * *

The Free Library—the Free Library Building—will come just as the water works, and gas, and the Paid Fire Department, and Horse Cars and Trolley Cars, and every other improvement came—nearly always against the opposition of those for whom they were most intended, but who afterward counted them as their chief blessings.

PENN.

Wha Money?

---

mous for wha
hotels.

* * *

To "Apprentice." It was expressly provided by Dr. James Rush that the "Ridgway Library" should not contain works of fiction. The doctor had little use for what is called "light reading." The name of the library is that of his wife before he married her—Phoebe Ann Ridgway—and her father was Jacob Ridgway, one of the richest merchants of Philadelphia. Mrs. Rush's share of her father's estate was probably upward of a million dollars. The executor of Dr. Rush's will was Henry J. Williams. If the Philadelphia Library Company could have its way, the building would not have been erected on the lot at Broad and Carpenter sts. The company opposed Mr. Williams's plans, carrying its case to the Supreme Court of the State; and it finally accepted the bequest only when there was no other step that could be taken to change the will or the purposes of its executor.

* * * *

Relating to the subject of the Free Library, is the following communication:

Dear Penn: In "Men and Things" of June 21 you say, talking of the Free Library, "I have never been quite able to understand why so much prejudice should be fomented in as intelligent a city as Philadelphia against this library, or, against the proposition that it housed in a suitable building not a great city. Yet among many phians who should be the for their self-education education of the cultivated a to it,

---

See Franklin's

Proposals relating to the
education of youth in Pa
Phila. 1749. pp. 8.9.
for note relating to Phila:
& Loganian Libraries

Humble Address of Liby. Co.
of Phila. to Hon. John Penn.
Penna. Gazette (No. 349)
May 29. - June 5, 1735

authors would soon be... course proper that at a festival dedicated to one of the former the latter should not be forgotten. He was happy to say that several gentlemen who had distinguished themselves in belles-lettres literature were present, and among them his friend, the District Attorney, who had made a most valuable contribution to the history of the Revolution. In that connection he desired to propose his health. The toast being duly honored, Mr. Reed said:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I am, on many accounts, indebted to yo... privilege of bei...

Natural Science, literature has, I presume, a feeble existence. We have a Library, till lately the largest in the Union, where not only varied and current literature can be had on the easiest terms, but where rich bibliographical curiosities repose, like the riches in Clarence's dream:—

> "Wedges of gold, great anchors, heaps of pearl,
> Inestimable stones, unvalued jewels,
> All scattered in the bottom of the sea."

have all these—and many more besides. We enterprise and active charity—but still, and there is no use of disguising it, the level of scholarship and authorship is not what it ought to be. And if my voice could reach the men of business and wealth in this great community, those who, if they please, could...

notice of meeting of Phila. Lib.
Co. — Penna. Gazette, March 29.
1744.

notice of Phila. Lib.
in Wansey's
U. S. (2394.O.)
p. 129 etc.

North American

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 7, 1854

"DISJOINTED THINKING."

There are happily some philanthropists of a different way of thinking about newspapers than the famous Dr. Rush. That cynical scholar pronounced newspapers "teachers of disjointed thinking," and refused to give them any place in his library. But some other men see more clearly than Dr. Rush in this matter. Here, for instance, is Mr. William Todd, of Atkinson, N. H., who makes the Boston Public Library a gift of $50,000 to establish a fund for the sole purpose of purchasing and preserving leading and representative newspapers. The future may well be left to decide which was wiser in his day and generation—Mr. Todd or Dr. Rush. If the Boston Library should survive to the period of Macaulay's New Zealander sketching the ruins of St. Paul's, its newspaper files may very well prove to be the most significant of all its possessions.

No men are so well aware as those concerned in the making of them how far the best newspapers are from their ideal, but it is yet the unassailable truth that these records provide the rough material for history as no other agency can claim to do, or even professes to do. If there had been newspapers in Shakespeare's day he would not have called the actors "the abstract and brief chronicle of the time," and the growth of society is perhaps nowhere more significantly marked than in this doubly admitted fact that the very limited province of the theatre once provided this chronicle, while now it rests upon such a multifarious agency as the press, which regards the stage as only one among a countless range of topics. All the vast array of books in the Boston Library will be of less value to the students of a far-distant age than this vital record of its newspaper files, showing how men constantly lived and grew—supposing that the study of man continues to be the great concern of the world, which there is small reason to doubt.

Bell's Circulating Lib'y. — advertisement
of in Penna. Ledger Feb. 21. 1778
front p. (394.7.)

"Likewise 2 libraries, 1 belonging to the province, the other to a soc'y... There is also a fine collection of books" etc.
Monthly Ledger, or, Literary Repository.
vol. 3 (1775) p. 21 (account of Penna.)

From the New York Tribune May 22. 1867

Lord Romilly writes to a cotemporary: "In the Autumn of last year Mr. Hepworth Dixon, in his tour through America, visited the public library of Philadelphia, and was shown four volumes of original state papers, bearing the Royal sign manual of James I. and the signatures of the Lords of his Privy Council, addressed to the Lord Deputy of Ireland. Mr. Hepworth Dixon, being naturally surprised at finding documents of that valuable nature in so distant a part of the world, made further inquiry, and was informed by the librarian that these papers had been originally taken away by the Chancellor of James II., evidently for some political purpose, and at his death were sold to the founder of the Philadelphia Library, by whom they were presented to the library in question. On inspecting the papers, Mr. Dixon at once saw their value, not only for the historical information they contained, but also as supplying a missing link in the state papers of Ireland. He, therefore, ventured to suggest to the Library Company of Philadelphia that it would be a graceful act on their part to restore to the British Government papers of such national importance. Mr. Dixon's suggestion was at once received, and he was informed that, if a proper application were made by the British Government, in all probability it would be acceded to. On his return to England Mr. Dixon communicated these facts to me, and I immediately brought the matter before the notice of Her Majesty's Government. The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury lost no time in taking the proper steps, and the Library Company have, in the most handsome manner, restored these valuable state muniments to Great Britain. A case has been received by me containing the four volumes in question, and also the original MS. of the Marquis of Clanricarde's Memoirs from October 23, 1641, to August 30, 1643, mentioned in Mr. Hardy's valuable Report on the Carte and Carew Papers, and which has long been supposed to be lost. This work was actually presented to Mr. Dixon for himself, who, as soon as he discovered its contents, and that it belonged to the same set of state papers, thought proper to restore it to the series from which he considered it unfit that it should be separated. I need scarcely say that it is of great value. The Lords of the Treasury have presented to the Philadelphia Library Company a complete set of all the works published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, as a mark of their sense of the liberal act performed by the directors of that company."

Philadelphia may, it seems, take some special credit upon herself for the successful outcome of Ambassador Bayard's appeal for the return to America of the priceless manuscript volume known as the "Log of the Mayflower." The precedent of the Philadelphia Library, the mother subscription library of the Colonies, in returning to the British Government, about thirty years ago, some manuscript volumes found in its collection "unquestionably played," according to the London Times, "considerable part in determining the action of the Consistory Court." The archives in question were official letters of the reign of James I relating to Irish affairs. Thus it may be seen that bread cast upon the waters still returns an hundred...

[For the Sunday Dispatch.]

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.

The first entry of Joseph Breintnall, Secretary of the Philadelphia Library Company, in the record of proceedings kept by him, is as follows:

"The minutes of me, Joseph Breintnall, Secretary to the Directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, with such of the minutes of the same Directors as they order me to make, begun on the eighth day of November, 1731. By virtue of the deed or instrument of the said company, dated the first day of June last. The said instrument being completed by fifty subscriptions, I subscribed my name to the following summons or notice, which Benjamin Franklin sent by a messenger, viz:

> To Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Hopkinson, William Parsons, Philip Syng. jun., Thomas Godfrey, Anthony Nicholas, Thomas Cadwalader, John Jones, jun., Robt. Grace and Isaac Penington. Gentlemen, the subscription to the Library being completed, you, the Directors appointed in the instrument, are desired to meet this evening at five o'clock, at the house of Nicholas Scull, to take bond of the Treasurer for the faithful performance of his trust, and to consider of and appoint a proper time for the payment of the money subscribed, and other matters relating to the said Library.
>
> JOSEPH BREINTNALL, Secretary.

Philad., 8th November, 1731."

This meeting was the first regularly constituted one of the Library company, and during its session William Coleman duly executed a bond with sureties, and Benjamin Franklin proposed that the Treasurer attend at proper times and places to receive the contributions and subscriptions of members, which was, we find, recorded as the expressed wish of the Secretary, "not to be delayed, lest the directors be disappointed in sending it to England this fall to purchase books, or that other disappointments prejudicial to the Library design should happen by delays or negligence on any hand." It would appear that, notwithstanding the exertions of the Secretary and the peremptory notices of Franklin to the neglectful, the members were extremely careless regarding the payment of their dues. In the month of March, 1732, the company having realized a little more than half the amount originally proposed to be raised, (the whole subscription ~~paid and~~ unpaid, being divided into fifty shares at forty shillings a share,) a catalogue of books to be purchased was decided upon and drawn up by James Logan, the founder of the Loganian Library, who volunteered his services to make out the list, in order that it might contain such books as were the most useful as well as appropriate to the purposes intended. Mr. Logan was esteemed by the company, as well as by all who knew him, to be the best scholar and best judge of books in "these parts," despite the reputation of Benjamin Franklin, whose fame for the most part is founded upon mere assumption, and who, in relation to the Library, as will be seen, has received more praise than he is entitled to. He loved distinction, and earned it as easily as possible, and made a little of it go a great ways.

With the advice of Mr. Logan the list was perfected, and the books were ordered from London. The amount of money in this firs outlay of the company was £45. In October 1732, the first importation of books was received, accompanied by a donation of tw volumes from Mr. Peter Collinson. To th gentleman a letter of thanks was duly returne by Franklin. About this time the latter name personage received the freedom of the company, or, in other words, a life exemption fro the payment of yearly dues, because he ha printed the notices during the past two year of the existence of the company. Two othe members were favored in the same manner—Joseph Breintnall for his trouble as Secretary, and Philip Syng for engraving the seal of the company. It was not Franklin, who, as has generally been supposed, made the first donation to the library, but Mr. Collinson; and the first American donor was William Rawle, who, on the 12th of March, 1733, presented a copy of Edmund Spenser's Works in six volumes. From the period of the first donation and the original importation, the institution seems to have swept through the succeeding years of its existence with prosperous gales. The books there accumulated were taken for safe keeping to the house of Mr. Robert Grace, "in his chamber," in Jones' alley.

It would be well at this juncture, before proceeding further, to examine the claims made by those foolish ones who so idolize the name of Benjamin Franklin, who was no more of a philosopher than is Horace Greeley of the present day. Toward increasing the prosperity and hastening the advancement of the library r. Benjamin Franklin did as little as, if no ss than, any of the other members attache it. The credit due him is derived fro e facts. He was one of its earliest pro- rs, three months and one day the librarian and for a while performed the duties of a London correspondent in the same manner as has been done, equally as well, if not better, and for a much longer period, by gentlemen not members of the company. He printed a very small catalogue for the company, without making any charge, and presented a Chinese clearance paper from Canton, a copper and a silver medal, and twenty-four volumes. He intimated at one time, to a committee that waited upon him, that he had a number of very valuable books, *which he intended for the library whenever there should be a safe place to deposit them in.*

The statue of Franklin in front of the Library building has probably aided in giving to the institution his name; and, in speaking of it, there is in connection with its origin an authentic incident, characteristic of the "Doctor." He, when spoken to regarding the plan, said that he approved of the design, and thought well of it, provided that this marble image of himself should be wrought out by the sculptor as being clad in *an academical gown and have a Roman head!* Franklin with a Roman head rising from the folds of a "gown!" Was not such an idea as this the rankest egotism that a small mind could conceive? While we deprecate the great over-estimation of Franklin's abilities, genius, liberality and charity, we do not desire to detract one iota from his real worth in the world's view. We merely wish his name to be stripped of a greatness which does not belong to it. Had he deserved it by his munificence toward the Library Company, would not the Directors have placed some memorial beneath the statue, or have had something commemorative of the esteem in which they held him? Instead of the panegyric, that probably he anxiously coveted, he is only mentioned in this wise. In their letter of thanks to Mr. Bingham, the Directors simply state that 'it is the *first* ornament of the building." They might have added, had circumstances justified the expression, "It will perpetuate the memory of the many and great benefactions to the Library made by the generous original;" but they preferred eulogizing the "liberality of the donor," Mr. William Bingham.

The present site of the Library was pur- hased of Mary Norris and Dr. Logan, on ground rent, (since paid off.) Among the many plans for a suitable edifice, that of Dr. William Thornton, with some slight alteration, was approved and accepted. On the 1st of August, 1789, the corner stone of the building was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, at the southwest corner. At the suggestion of Dr. Franklin, the following inscription was placed upon it:

BE IT REMEMBERED,
In honor of the Philadelphia Youth,
(These chiefly artificers,)
That in MDCCXXXI.
They cheerfully,
AT THE INSTANCE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
One of their number,
INSTITUTED THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY,
Which, though small at first,
Is become highly valuable and extensively useful,
And which the walls of this edifice
Are now destined to contain and preserve;
The first stone of whose foundation
Was here placed
The thirty-first day of August, 1789.

At the close of December, in the year 1790, the books were all removed to the new edifice and were ready for delivery, Mr. Zachariah Poulson being continued as the Librarian at a salary of one hundred pounds per year.

One of the chief benefactors of the institution was Robert Barclay, Esq., of London, who repeatedly sent as donations to the Library various kinds of rare and valuable books, and continued an intimate correspondence with his American friends until his death, and at all times evinced the most kindly feelings toward the institution.

In 1789—some time in April of that year—Henry Cox, of Ireland, presented the Library Company with a large number of manuscript volumes relating to the history and progress of his native land. They consist of the original correspondence of James the First with the Privy Council of Ireland.

The Loganian Library, which now adjoins the one of which we have spoken, was transferred to the latter under certain conditions—all of which, up to the present time, have, we believe, been punctually fulfilled. The vast accessions which through various means have been made to the library, have increased it so much that we imagine, should any of its original founders be permitted to "walk again" and revisit the scene of their early trials, they would scarcely recognize the place so thoroughly identified with their names, and history, and memory.

Entering the Library from Fifth street, the first object of curiosity which should attract the attention of the visitor is a famous old clock, still ticking—tick, tick, ticking—and as regardless of wear and age as if it and Time had made a bargain to go on counting each other's minutes forevermore. This clock is said to have been made expressly for Oliver Cromwell, the Lord Protector, and, after passing through many hands, a legacy from one generation to another, it has at last become the property of the Library.

A quiet, congenial retreat, is the Library for the student. No noise, no confusion, to distract the mind from the contemplation of the tomes of wisdom, wit and research, which surround you. At your ease, as long as you like, you can keep the company of sage old Plutarch, admire the subtle logic of Junius, or discourse upon the revelations of Copernicus.

And you can look, too, upon the portrait of James Logan, the founder and donor of the Loganian Library, whose name and memory deserve to live through all time as the pioneer in that benevolent project which has so enriched us, and which has afforded so much pleasure to us, that, forgetful of him, in many instances we have given his praise to a less worthy man. His descendants, in accordance with the conditions of his bequest, still occupy the office of librarian. This portrait, said to be remarkable for its fidelity, is a copy painted by Sully. Above it is the portrait of William Penn, executed by Lambdin, and presented by the last librarian, John Jay Smith, Esq., now the treasurer of the Company. The portrait of William Mackenzie, one of the donors to the Loganian Library, by Sully; the portrait of the Reverend Samuel Preston, painted by Benjamin West, and presented by Mrs. West; that of Dr. Thomas Parke, one of the directors; and that of Zachariah Poulson, for fifty-nine years (as librarian, treasurer and director), an officer of the company, complete the list of portraits in oil.

The total number of books now in the Libraries, as catalogued, is 64,195, having increased in twenty years nearly thirty thousand volumes.

Of early printed books there are several of the date of 1470, and many without any specific date. Among them may be enumerated the Vulgate Bible, printed at Rome by Sweynheym & Pannartz of Nuremberg, in 1475; and Copeland's edition of Caxton's Recuile of the Histories of Troie, London, 1553, very rare and quaint. In the department relating to America, the two libraries may be said to be extremely rich. The sets of newspapers, from the first numbers of the first paper published in Philadelphia continuously to the present time, include a set of *Bradford's American Mercury*, from 1719 to 1745; *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, complete from 1728 to 1804; *The Pennsylvania Journal*, from 1747 to 1793; *The Pennsylvania Packet*, (afterwards *Poulson's Advertiser*,) under various names up to the present time, from 1771; *The Federal and Philadelphia Gazette*, from 1778 to 1843; and the *U. S. Gazette*, now the *North American*, from 1791 to the present time. A rare old work is also here, entitled "Campanius' Kort Beskyrfnnig om Provincien Nya Swerige callas Pennsylvania," published at Stockholm, 1702, with curiously executed maps and singularly drawn pictures. The above imperfect outline of certain features of the collection, its origin, rise and progress, will serve in some manner to indicate the value of the Philadelphia and Loganian Libraries, as well to the public as to the members of the Company; it being customary to permit persons who are not members to consult works of reference in the rooms without charge. We close this brief descriptive sketch by quoting the closing paragraph in the preface to vol. III. of the catalogue, just published:

> "Unfortunately this highly valuable collection is not in a fire-proof building, and the destructi
>
> gress Library by fire, and other similar calamities, warn us not to presume too much upon the impunity in this respect enjoyed for more than a century. Moreover, the accommodations in the present edifice will, in a few years, be exhausted, and further room will have to be provided. In view of these facts the directors have decided to make an appeal to the stockholders, and to the citizens of Philadelphia, for contributions to a building fund, to be invested separately until it is sufficient for the erection of a perfectly fire-proof building of dimensions suited to the wants of the Library."

We take this occasion to return our thanks to the Librarian for the very many courtesies extended to us, and assure him that they are gratefully appreciated.

Philadelphia, Wednesday, March 27, 1867.

THE LOGANIAN LIBRARY.

The recent publication of the first supplemental catalogue of the books belonging to the Loganian Library, with the deed of trust on which it is founded, and the will of the founder, form a most timely publication. They show that from the commencement of this city the trusted secretary of Wm. Penn—James Logan—his descendants, and many other men, especially including Benjamin Franklin in his life, have been desirous to give our city a great public library for the use of the citizens, where the highest and best literary knowledge may be obtained on easy terms. But it also shows that the growth of library facilities in this city has not been such as might have been expected from such a noble beginning as that of James Logan, from the growth of our city in population and wealth, or from comparison with the public libraries recently established in other cities. Logan's name and services have been too little remembered in Philadelphia. Born in the North of Ireland, in 1674, becoming a Quaker from principle, one of the wisest acts of Wm. Penn was to select and bring over this man as secretary. As a schoolmaster he made himself a really eminent scholar and philosopher; as a merchant he was universally trusted, and became honored and wealthy. As a colonist he became Secretary, Chief Justice, President of the Council, and acting Governor; and dying in 1751, he left the best [illegible] perhaps, on this continent, worth in all some $10,000 in gold to this city. The present Philadelphia Library Company was, in 1792, made to consolidate three libraries, of which this was one. It has been managed with moderate wisdom, but the books in the Loganian alcoves have not grown in numbers as much as might have been expected had they formed the nucleus of a city library managed as liberally, say, as the Boston City Library. The thirty-five pounds a year have doubtless been faithfully expended upon it. The public have given but little, and the library has not formed, as might have been hoped, the centre round which other and larger donations would have gathered for a great public establishment. But the city has grown, and this has not grown at all proportionably.

We still want a great free library, where books can be had by all studious persons without money and without price. The City Library in Boston has one reading-room always well filled, where people come to read all the periodicals of the day; another room, where they lend out the new books like a circulating library, issuing many thousand volumes per day—sometimes 13,000. Any householder can obtain a card, without charge, entitling the bearer of it to take out one book at a time for a limited number of days. If the book is not properly returned a messenger is sent, sometimes within a few hours, the matter is hunted up and the fine enforced. There is another library, founded by the late Mr. Bates, of more valuable and standard works, up stairs, where any stranger can go and read in a magnificent hall any work he wishes, and, if a resident of the city, can take out, on a similar card, a volume or two without charge for so many days. There are now 120,000 volumes in the whole City Library, all collected within nine years. To it large libraries of great value, such as that of the late Theodore Parker, and others, are left, and the city keeps up and keeps open to the public one of its most magnificently constructed buildings for the purpose, which cost $360,000. If any citizen goes in and inquires for any work not in the library, however rare and costly, or published abroad, a paper is put into his hands with the blank form of application, recommending it. This is laid before the Library Committee, and, if they think it will add to the completeness and value of the library, it is obtained.

No one can look at the plan of the founder of the Loganian Library without seeing that his object was to establish the beginning of a library for the public use, free of charge, where all citizens, capable of using and prevented from abusing his intention, should be able to go and get out books or consult them. Why should not this be made the foundation of a great free library, such as the necessities of the times demand, while the other part of the Philadelphia Library might, if thought best, still retain the features that have enabled it to become so valuable for its subscribers? The Boston City Library has increased at the rate of 60,000 volumes, or near it, since 1858, and the Loganian only 708 volumes since 1837.

We feel convinced that there are gentlemen in this city who, if met with proper encouragement by the Philadelphia Library, would subscribe any necessary amount to revive, to keep up the fame of this most noble beginning, dating from the very incipiency of our now wealthy and growing city, on a scale commensurate with that wealth and growth and the rapid progress of the present age. Since 1837, but 708 new volumes are catalogued to the Loganian Library. There should be 70,000 added in the next ten years from the legacies and donations of citizens.

Ye Handwriting on Ye Pages. One of the most objectionable practices committed by the patrons of the public libraries of this city is that of disfiguring the books which they are permitted to use. This practice is a deep-rooted one and hard to eradicate. Many plans have been tried, but none have been successful, since the pencilings, opinions, and criticisms of the readers, which are needed nor heeded by any one, still continue to appear. That the practice is an old one is shown by the following, written on a flyleaf in one of last century's volumes preserved in the Ridgway Library:—

"December 1, 1791.

I do here sett my hand
shewing that I am
a Philadelphian having
a Part in ye Library for
all I am a Scavenger.

SM. STALL,
Philadelphia, Pa."

---

meeting to consider library building
992. 7. p. 47

LEDGER AND TRANSCRIPT.

Philadelphia, Thursday, August 7, 1873.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

THE LIBRARIES OF PHILADELPHIA—THE PHILADELPHIA AND LOGANIAN LIBRARIES.—"The Mother of all the North American Subscription Libraries," as Franklin called the Philadelphia library, is older than some of the rare volumes to be found on its shelves. It is believed to have had its origin in the Junto, mentioned in Dr. Franklin's autobiography. He says that in 1730 he proposed to his fellow members in the club to bring their private libraries together. that the books of all might be convenient to each member for reference. The suggestion was adopted, but within a year inconvenience resulted, and the collection was separated, each member taking his books home again. Upon the failure of this scheme Franklin set on foot his first project of a public nature—that for a subscription library. He drew up the proposals, got them put into form by "our great scrivener, Brocken," and by the help of his friends in the Junto procured fifty subscribers of forty shillings each to begin with, and ten shillings a year for fifty years. A charter was subsequently obtained, and the company increased to one hundred members. The instrument of association is dated July 1, 1731, and the directors therein appointed held their first meeting November 8th, 1731.

The directors were Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Hopkinson, Wm. Parsons, Phillip Ling, Jr., Thos. Godfrey, Anthony Nicholas, Thomas Cadwalader, John Jones, Jr., Robert Grace and Isaac Pennington. They chose William Coleman as their treasurer, and Joseph Breintnall as secretary. Many of the shares of stock have descended in the families of the original subscribers through several generations. William Rawle appears to have been the first American donor, he having presented, on the 12th of March, 1733, "six volumes or books of the works of Mr. Edmund Spenser." Mr. Rawle's share of stock is still held by his descendants. The directors of the company have held long terms of office. Zachariah Poulson held office for 59 years, T. Park for 57 years, Jas. Gibson, 57 years, J. N. Norris, 47 years. Benjamin Franklin, after serving as librarian for some time, was a director for 28 years.

The library was opened in the chamber of a house belonging to Robert Grace, who is described by Franklin as "a young gentleman of some fortune, generous, lively and witty; a lover of punning and of his friends." It was afterwards removed to the State House, and a traveller, writing of it in 1748, says: "There is a fine collection of excellent works, most of them English, French and Latin, but few in any other language." In 1769 the Union Library Company was united to the Philadelphia, and in e777 another junction was formed with the Association Library. In 1773 the books were removed to Carpenter's Hall, and when Congress met there in 1774, the members were given the free use of the library. When the British army occupied Philadelphia, the officers thereof used the library, leaving deposits and paying hire for the books borrowed. In 1777 the library room was occupied by sick soldiery, and during the same year Hon. Wm. Logan left the company a number of books of ancient authors.

Bishop White presided at a general meeting, held June 1, 1789, at which it was determined to erect a suitable library building as soon as one hundred new members could be obtained. The condition precedent was soon fulfilled, and at the close of the year 1790, the books were all removed to the present building, at the corner of Fifth and Library streets. In 1791 the directors again gave the use of the library to the President and Congress, for which courtesy General Washington returned a note of thanks. In 1792 an addition was put up in the rear of the library building for the Loganian Library, which property had been vested in the Library Company of Philadelphia, by an act of the Legislature.

James Logan, the founder of this library, was born in Ireland, in 1674, and accompanied Wm. Penn to Pennsylvania, in 1699. He served in the Province as Secretary, Chief Justice, Commissioner of Property, President of the Council, and Acting Governor. He died in 1751, and bequeathed to the City of Philadelphia, with a liberal endowment, the classical library, worth at that time $10,000 in gold, which still bears his name and has greatly increased in value. He did not sign the deed, but his intention in the matter being known, his heirs, William and James Logan, John Smith and Hannah his wife, the surviving daughter of James Logan, executed a perpetual deed of trust, which conveyed the books, the library building, at the northwest corner of Sixth and Walnut streets (in which the library was kept from 1750 to 1792) and certain funds derived from lands leased for one hundred and twenty-one years, for the support of the institution, to Israel Pemberton, William Allen, Richard Peters, and Benjamin Franklin, their heirs and assigns forever. Some of the conditions of the gift were curious and noteworthy.

It was provided that there should be a perpetual succession of trustees, part of whom should be the descendants of James Logan, the elder, the male line to be preferred to the female, and that one of his male descendants, taken in priority of birth and preferring the male line to the female, should be Librarian, with the power of employing deputies. To prevent confusion, it was also provided that the names, days of birth, days of marriage and to whom, and days of death of all descendants should be entered in a folio-bound book, the names of each descendant to be numbered, and giving the numbers of the parents as well as their names. The "folio-bound book" was to be kept "in a box or drawer in the said library under two locks, whereof the key of one to be kept by the Librarian and the key of the other lock by the Senior Trustee, or such other of them as the majority of them may direct."

An accurate record of James Logan's descendants is still kept, and the office of librarian has been occupied by one or another of the family down to the present day. In 1792, at the instance of James Logan, the son, and the only surviving trustee, the property was vested in the Library Company of Philadelphia, as previously mentioned. The librarians from 1760 to 1792 were Wm. Logan and James Logan 2d, and since that time Zachariah Poulson, George Campbell, John Jay Smith and Lloyd P. Smith have held the office. The present librarian and his father and predecessor, John Jay Smith, are descendants of John Smith, who married the daughter of James Logan.

In the hall of the building there are six fire buckets belonging to the "Library Company of Philadelphia," relics of the time before hand engines, which have themselves become traditions in the minds of the younger citizens. In the library room there are portraits of Benjamin Franklin, William Penn, Rev. Samuel Preston (an English clergyman who left his library to the company), James Logan and the Duke of Brunswick. The librarian sits behind the desk of William Penn and listens to the ticking of Cromwell's clock, while around and above him are portraits, relics and books, to remind him of the whole history of his country and of the times which preceded its discovery. On the corner-stone of the building is an inscription which declares that the library was instituted "at the instance of Benjamin Franklin," and a statue of the American Philosopher has been placed in the niche over the doorway. William Bingham, the maternal grandfather of Lord Ashburton, furnished it at his own expense. It was made in Italy, from a bust and a drawing of the figure sent there for models, and it was said by Franklin's contemporaries to be an excellent likeness.

The Philadelphia Library has received

luable gifts and bequests from its and friends, and in 1869 the will of r. James Rush, giving to the Li- certain conditions over $1,000,000, tted to probate. The will had been nged by codicils and the trustee by promises which he considered upon him, and it is an open question, whether the bequest will be ac- The trustee intends to build the li- fice on South Broad street, and s completed, to offer it to the Phi- Library Company. Until that question of acceptance or rejection finally decided, but it is probable Library Company will maintain its ence, refuse the bequest and erect brary building in the central part y, for which purpose there is now fund of $95,000.

re now about 968 stockholders, who r year, and nearly all of whom regu- the library. Any one may take ooks by leaving a deposit covering e of the borrowed book, and by the of a small sum weekly for the use lume. The rooms are open to the t all times. The revenue of the mpany (which is too small for its es) is derived from the dues of ders, the payments of strangers ow books, and the rent of some on Fifth street, below Chesnut. e income does not amount to $9000 and of this amount between $3000 0 is expended in the binding and of books. The library has been ll citizens for almost a century and time, and yet in its old age it does ve enough support from the com- so largely benefitted by its books, le the directors to keep pace with r and as yet smaller libraries.

The grandson of a former Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, seventy years ago, gave to the Philadelphia Library a number of manuscripts relating to Irish State affairs, which had remained in the custody of the Chancellor's family from the time of the flight of James II to France. The papers remained in the library entirely unappreciated, until Mr. John Jay Smith became librarian, when he had them arranged, bound and catalogued. Mr. Hepworth Dixon, in examining the papers, found that they were a part of the national archives of Great Britain, and that the series of letters, of which these were a part, was preserved in London in custody of the Master of the Rolls. The directors of the Library restored the papers to the British Government, and thus in 1867 returned the courtesy of the English officers in 1777 with interest. In return the Lord Commissioners sent to the Library a complete set of the Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland in the Middle Ages, and of the Calendars [illegible] Papers, [illegible] the as well as several fa[illegible] of State Pa[illegible] process of photo-zi[illegible] similes made by [illegible] by their autho[illegible]ncography, and published [illegible]aster [illegible]ority under the direction of the Ma[illegible] of the Rolls. This gift consisted of one hundred and fifty-six volumes handsomely bound in morocco.

There are now about 100,000 volumes in the library, some of them exceedingly rare and valuable. In a glass case, immediately before the visitor enters the door, there are many valuable books, some of which are the following: "Augustinus de Vita Christiana," printed in 1459 by Fust and Schoyffer, the first printers; a Vulgate Bible, only 200 copies of which were printed at Rome by Sweyheym and Pannartz in 1471; another printed by Koburger at Nuremberg in 1475; an English version by Grafton, 1539, and a Nouveau Testament printed at Lyons about 1480; an Abyssinian Prayer Book; a manuscript copy of the Koran, with comments; an early German version of Reynard the Fox, 1549.

Of manuscripts the most ancient is an exemplar of the entire Bible on parchment of the date of 1016(?). There are many wonderfully beautiful manuscripts on vellum, one ~~an~~ illuminated Psalter, supposed to be a specimen of German art early in the fifteenth century. In the case are also to be found Eliot's Indian Bible, (of which there are two copies in the Library), Henry's Manuscript Indian Dictionary, a Siamese Treatise on the small-pox, a Chinese and Japanese Dictionary. and a celt of the Bronze Age, more than 2000 years old. One of the most valuable of the old books is the first Italian translation of Pliny's Natural History, printed on vellum, and probably the only copy not made on paper. Many of the old books were bequeathed to the library by William Mackenzie, Esq., who died in 1829, and some of the rare manuscripts and books have been deposited by Dr. William Camac, John S. Phillips, Esq., and Dr. Ruschenberger. There is a fine collection of French, Spanish, ~~Italian and German~~ books, and in the large collection of English works there are complete sets of "English County Histories," of the Royal Society's Transactions. of the Gentleman's Magazine, of the Annual Register of the Parliamentary Debates, &c. Also a collection of 700 English pamphlets in thirty-six volumes, published during the revolutionary period, from 1620 to 1720, Somer's Tracts, and the Harleian Miscellany.

In the department of works relating to America, the library is very rich. It includes sets of newspapers from the first number of the first paper published in Philadelphia to the present time, including Bradford's American Mercury, the Pennsylvania Gazette, the Pennsylvania Journal, the Pennsylvania Packet, afterwards Poulson's Advertiser, the Federal and Philadelphia Gazette, and the United States Gazette, now the North American. There is a large and valuable collection of books, pamphlets, broadsides, manuscripts and old German works relating to the early history of America, and "Publications of the Enemy in Philadelphia in 1777 and 1778." The library has two copies of Aitken's Bible of 1782, published under the patronage of Congress, and "Poor Richard's Almanac," from 1733 to 1747. Only the books having a peculiar value from old age or rarity have been noticed, but, in addition to these, the library is fully supplied with standard works on nearly every subject.

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRARY

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venerable Institution.

STARTED WITH THE CENTURY

Many Prominent Citizens of Bucks County Have Been Patrons of the Library That is Now Langhorne's Pride.

A lawn fete was given for the benefit of the Langhorne Library Association yesterday afternoon, at the country seat of Henry W. Watson, on the outskirts of that delightful Bucks County village. The several hundred people present represented not only the most prominent families in the vicinity of Langhorne, but large delegations from Philadelphia, Bristol, Newtown, Doylestown, Eddington, Torresdale and the other neighboring boroughs were present.

The Langhorne Library has had a most interesting history and is the oldest in Bucks County. It was started in 1800 as the "Attleborough Library," when the village was called "Four Lanes' End," and the modest collection of books was kept in one of the country stores. In 1802, however, the library had flourished to such an extent that a charter was obtained from the Supreme Court of the State. This old sheepskin document, written in indelible ink, and signed by Justices Edward Shippen, Jasper Yates, Thomas Smith and Hughes Henry Breckenridge, is still carefully preserved among the library's archives.

EARLY SUBSCRIBERS OF PROMINENCE.

The old books of the library show that among its subscribers were many men of prominence in Bucks County, and not a few who have since attained high position in Philadelphia, among them being the Newbolds, Bileses, Paxsons, Woolstons, Landises, Richardsons, Craigs, Athertons, Jenkses, Hickses, Hulmes and a number of others. The records also show that the property of the library was carefully guarded, and that subscribers were held to strict account for damage to books. For instance, one memorandum states that on November 4, 1800, "Henry Atherton returned 'Hook's Roman History' with a grease spot on page 77."

The old library flourished for many years, but when the original charter expired, in 1870, interest had flagged so greatly that the association was discontinued and the collection of books sold at public sale. But in a short time the loss to the community was realized, and a few years afterward the circulating library was reorganized with only 30 volumes, and Henry W. Watson, the promotor of reorganization, was put in charge as president. In 1878 another charter was obtained, and by voluntary subscriptions a small building was secured. Ten years after, in 1888, Anna Mary Williamson, a near relative of I. V. Williamson, bequeathed $16,000 to the association, $12,000 for a suitable building and a fund of $4000, the interest of which is applied to the purchase of books.

NOW THE PRIDE OF LANGHORNE.

The library is to-day in a fine building, the pride of Langhorne, with 3000 volumes on its shelves, and with 70 members. Subscriptions provide for its maintenance, and an active Board of Managers directs its affairs. Mr. Watson still remains president of the association, and the other managers are Mrs. Eva Prior, Miss Lillie Allen, Miss Ella Ridge, Amos Satterthwaite, Charles Wildman and Robert Ivins.

The spacious lawn of the Watson manor was beautifully decorated last evening and enough time was spared from the festivities to devote to several short addresses in praise of the work of the library and appeals for its support. One of the speakers was Mayor Warwick, whose summer home is at Langhorne. Mr. Warwick was warm in his praises of the association, and his appeals to the pride of Bucks County and Langhorne for liberal support of the library were very warmly received. A substantial sum was realized from the fete.

OF DANA DAVENPORT.

The College Settlement's Free Library in St. Mary Street.

The absorbing topic of conversation among the boys and girls and men and women of St. Mary street is the opening of a beautiful new library in the building of the College Settlement on Monday, October 1. For several weeks the denizens of this populous section of the city have exhibited considerable interest in the preliminary arrangements for the library, and no small amount of enjoyment has there been in listening to the hammering of the carpenters and watching the bustling in of books.

The movement which has resulted so successfully in securing good literature free to the poor of Philadelphia, whose fund of enjoyment at the best is very meagre, is under the auspices of the Free Library of Philadelphia. The managers of the College Settlement have appropriated a large room for the library, and the newly-placed shelves are filled with about two thousand volumes, which, with the 800 books owned by the College Settlement, form an attractive and useful collection.

The books are of a very miscellaneous character. There are works of travel, history, biography and especially books that will interest young American readers. As far as possible the selection has been made with reference to the needs of the patrons of the new library. It is safe to say that on its shelves the boys and girls, the young men and maidens, and the older people as well, will find much that is useful and entertaining and of genuine value to them in their daily life.

On Monday, October 1, 1894, the free library will be opened at 1 P. M. to visitors, and at 8 o'clock a meeting will be held in the large hall of the College Settlement, when the purposes and methods of the branch will be explained. Several of the directors of the free library and other persons interested in the movement have promised to be present and deliver short addresses.

On the following day the library will be regularly open to readers, who will be permitted to select and take out books for home use or who desire to visit the room for the purpose of consulting the reference and other books and the magazines. The library will be opened every day except Sundays and legal holidays from 1 to 9 P. M., and each reader will be entitled to take for home use two books, one of which only, however, may be fiction.

In order to increase the interest of readers in the work of the library a series of six lectures will be given during October and November by John Thomson, the librarian, on the following subjects: "Beast Stories and their Interest to Readers." "Travels and How to Enjoy Them Without Leaving Home." "History and How to Pick Up a Knowledge of it Pleasantly and Usefully," "Biographies and Why They Are So Entertaining," "How to Use Library Books and a Few Thoughts on Book Bindings," "How to Acquire a Knowledge About Other Worlds."

Professor D. S. Holman has kindly promised to assist the lecturer with his tele-microscope, and some illustrations of the subjects of the lectures will be exhibited each evening.

The Nation.

FICTION IN THE BROOKLINE LIBRARY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The note in your issue for August 22 (p. 134), beginning, "The head of the Public Library at Brookline, Mass.," was published while that officer was in Europe, and I have supposed this was the explanation of the fact (if it be so) that you have not been asked to retract the statement with which the note ends: "This library keeps in circulation a full line of the trashiest novels in existence."

I regret that no one authorized to speak for that library has protested against this extreme overstatement, but would like, at this late date, to ask you to do better justice to one of our most representative smaller public libraries, and so to the general practice of our libraries in the matter of fiction. It is simply untrue that the library (as represented in its catalogue of fiction under review in your note) keeps either "the trashiest novels in existence" or a "full line" of that moderately trashy fiction of which it has some representatives. The authors whose names, appearing in this catalogue, caught your eye and led to this sweeping accusation, are about four, viz., Mrs. Southworth, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Holmes, and "The Duchess." (If there are others whose names you think would better not appear in such a list, you would confer a real benefit upon our library fraternity if you would name them, and so help us in our efforts to get a consensus of the best opinion as to where we are to draw the line.) Now this quartet of women writers do confessedly write trash, but I submit that it is far from being the "trashiest kind in existence." And to call the seventy-four titles given under these names collectively (very much less than all their works) a "full line of the trashiest kind," approaches hyperbole of a dangerous sort. It may or may not be best for the public libraries to circulate any trash – on that point there are differing opinions among equally competent and well-meaning librarians and library directors. But that a catalogue which presents almost an honor-roll of writers of sound and wholesome fiction should, by its inclusion of so small a modicum of (I repeat, *not* "the trashiest") trash, bring such a library as that at Brookline under so severe a reproach as you have visited upon it, is, to use moderate terms, at least regrettable.

W. I. FLETCHER.

AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY, October 21, 1895.

[It seems to be merely a difference of opinion between us and Mr. Fletcher as to what constitutes "trash." We did not say that the Brookline Library contained a majority of trashy novels, or that the greater part of its fiction was trash, but we maintain that it has the most trashy: we have always heard the works of Mrs. Southworth cited as the type, the extreme form, of trashiness. We noticed the presence of these books in the Brookline Library with surprise, because that town is much above the average in cultivation, having no very poor or factory population. The constituency of the Salem Library is, we believe, below that of Brookline in this respect, yet none of the authors referred to are represented in its catalogue (August, 1895), nor in that of Peoria, Ill. (1894), with a population nearly four times as great. We may add that we expressed no opinion as to whether "it may or may not be best for the public libraries to circulate trash."—ED. NATION.]

"DISCORDANT CHURCH UNITY."

se
bition
desired

In
now
peal
the R
value
after
who
cati
Rush
dicils:

"I do not
be excluded fr
count of its diff
nary or convention
subjects of science,
ogy, morals or medic
contains neither ribaldry
Temperate, sincere and
quiry and discussion ar
dreaded by the advocates
truth need not fear the
wish the Ridgway Branc
delphia Library to be e
the ephemeral biograph
works
amusen
or pe
form
of the

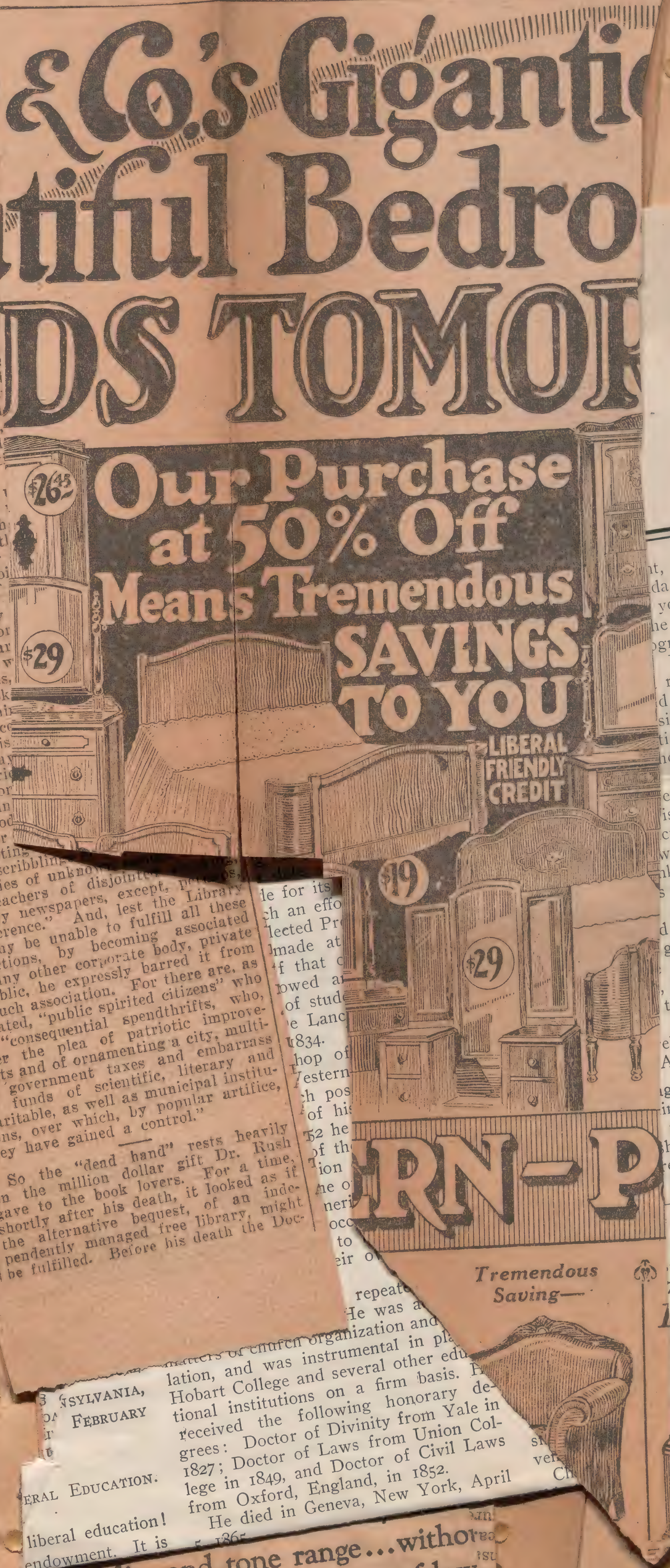
No Fiction and No Newspapers

of the day. The g
public library is to l
of the reader and st
private collections d
contain, and which,
could be accessibl
Quality, not quant
"Its excellence,"
"will depend not
its volumes but
value, and I wish
carried out by th
hope, will never
too common ambi
cal superiority."

The Ridgway
a place of resor
of a free librar
now provided, w
reading places,
tions for smok
horrent to hi
now the plac
by library vis
The Ridgway
for the seri
keep cushion
and loungin
another co
ment, "nor
mind-tainting
politics, scribbling
biographies of unkno
those teachers of disjoint
the daily newspapers, except, p
for reference." And, lest the Library
Company be unable to fulfill all these
instructions, by becoming associated
with any other corporate body, private
or public, he expressly barred it from
any such association. For there are, as
he stated, "public spirited citizens" who
are "consequential spendthrifts, who,
under the plea of patriotic improvements and of ornamenting a city, multiply government taxes and embarrass the funds of scientific, literary and charitable, as well as municipal institutions, over which, by popular artifice, they have gained a control."

So the "dead hand" rests heavily on the million dollar gift Dr. Rush gave to the book lovers. For a time, shortly after his death, it looked as if the alternative bequest, of an independently managed free library, might be fulfilled. Before his death the Doc-

ENING BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEB



nt, which
da which
you ever
he United
graphy of
You can
revelation
d it. These
sibilities in
tion, a col-
holars cross
not infre-
enough, the
visitors from
ction of an-
was the finest
nklin's youth,
s of the world

d do a great
get a man like
on the great
, for this library
the chief among

ely.
ALVA KONKLE."

agazine for May,
ing article on this
present librarian,
hould be read by
ested in this sub-

Justice Mitchell

Annual Meeting o
ar Association, hel
7, 1907, at Bedfor
as unanimously r
he Honorable Jam
Chief Justice of t
Pennsylvania, a co
ion and banquet
pletion of fifty ye
n to the Bar on N

Mitchell has accep

le for its
ch an effo
lected Pr
made at
f that c
owed a
of stud
e Lanc
1834.
hop of
Western
ch pos
of his
52 he
of th
ion
he o
neri
occ
to
eir o

repeat
He was a
matters of church organization and
lation, and was instrumental in pla
Hobart College and several other edu
tional institutions on a firm basis. H
received the following honorary de-
grees: Doctor of Divinity from Yale in
1827; Doctor of Laws from Union Col-
lege in 1849, and Doctor of Civil Laws
from Oxford, England, in 1852.
He died in Geneva, New York, April
5, 1865

NSYLVANIA,
FEBRUARY

ERAL EDUCATION.

liberal education!
endowment. It is

fidelity and tone range...withou
ing of power and dulling of low
which owners of ordinary sets m
hum is reduced in defiance of ele
and experience!

Think of it! All this at the ser
price...only $54 (less Radiotr

Mr.
boo
impe
have
repor
large
some
our co
King w
includin
volumes
D'Wolf
Robert
of valuab
income to
umes) were
closed in
the essa
raits," wi
on from
ever, wer
edition of
y Mrs. Wi
Nichols
iquities of
ohio), with
simile repri
to Virginia
containing
ings, were
Providence.
"Medallion
taining 170
Jacquemart
Mr. Wm.
dence, pr
fully ill
and Hum
Ages, givi
progress o
branch of pi
to the sevent
of examples
selected from

ed, which on
at the meetings. Eve
ciation escorts a grou
ren to Washington an
sors a trip to see th
ball at Shibe Park.
ge thrift, the Big Fou
possible for the chil
venth and eighth grade
to start bank account
ildren each month sav
$600.
Reimel, 5608 North
, is the founder an
the association, whil
North 3d street, on
members, with
is pres

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRARY

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venerable Institution.

STARTED WITH THE CENTURY

Many
Coun
the
L

ates
Law
be
ed

A lawn fet
of the Lang
yesterday afte
of Henry W.
of that delight
The several hu
resented not o
families in the
but large delega
Bristol, Newtow
ton, Torresdale
ing boroughs w
The Langhorn
most interesting
est in Bucks C
in 1800 as the "
when the villa
Lanes' End," an
of books was ke
try stores. In
brary had flourish
that a charter w
Supreme Court o
sheepskin docume
ble ink, and signe
Shippen, Jasper
and Hughes He
still carefully pre
brary's archives.

EARLY SUBSCRIBE

The old books
that among its su
men of prominenc
and not a few wh
high position in
them being the N
sons, Woolstons, I
Craigs, Atherton
Hulmes and a nu
records also show
the library was c
that subscribers w
count for damag
stance, one memor
November 4, 1800,
turned 'Hook's R
grease spot on pag
The old library
years, but when
expired, in 1870, i
greatly that the a
tinued and the co
at public sale. B
loss to the commu
a few years afte
library was reorg
volumes, and He
promotor of reorg
charge as preside
charter was obtain
subscriptions a sn
cured. Ten years
Mary Williamson,
V. Williamson, b
the association, $1
building and a fu
terest of which is a
of books.

NOW THE PRID

The library is to-
the pride of Langh
umes on its shelves
bers. Subscriptions
tenance, and an a
agers directs its affa
remains president o
the other managers
Miss Lillie Allen,
Amos Satterthwait
and Robert Ivins.
The spacious la
manor was beautif
evening and enoug
from the festivities
short addresses in
of the library and
port. One of the s
Warwick, whose s
Langhorne. Mr. W
his praises of the
appeals to the prid
and Langhorne fo
the library were ve
A substantial sum w
fete.

OF

The College Settlement's Free Library
in St. Mary Street.

BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Men and Things

The "Dead Hand" Rules and Hinders In the Case of the Million Dollar Ridgway Library, Little Used and Missing Its Opportunity

PHILADELPHIA'S largest mausoleum, the Ridgway Library, whose lack of use has evoked the criticism of A. Edward Newton, has long been a conspicuous example of the crippling influence of "the dead hand." For nearly a half century the big building at Broad and Christian streets has attracted attention as an imposing structure. In its architectural impressiveness it has been one of the adornments of the city. A visitor passing by and being merely informed that it was the home of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library no doubt would consider it a notable example of the interest of the city in literature and learning. But, as Mr. Newton says, it is of little service. Possibly no other library in the city is as little used. Visitors and readers are rare. Although it is well maintained by the private library company which looks after it, and which received it as the gift of Dr. James Rush, the son of the Revolutionary patriot and physician, Benjamin Rush, it is, to all intents and purposes, only a place for the "dead storage" of books, though a person can, on request, consult volumes, or, if a member of the Library Company of Philadelphia, take one out on loan.

It was the intent of Dr. Rush to stimulate the reading of useful books, to found a library where students might congregate, and he not only provided for the safe keeping of the treasures of the old library on Fifth street but stated that if the Library Company, of which he was a member, did not take over the institution it should be opened as "a free library."

But, except so far as members of the Library Company are concerned, the Ridgway Library has never been free in the sense of allowing a reader to borrow a book for home study. Whether it can ever be made so is a question, as the will of the eccentric donor greatly circumscribes its service.

Dr. Rush was an omnivorous reader, who spent the greater part of his life in seclusion among his books in the mansion on Chestnut street that later became a part of the Aldine Hotel. He declared he owed a great deal to the Library Company. Accordingly the institution was to be operated by that company, but only on the fulfillment of certain conditions. These stipulations, at variance with modern methods of library administration, have kept the Ridgway Branch chiefly an idle monument to the donor and his wife, Phoebe Ann, daughter of Jacob Ridgway, who are buried within its grounds.

Dr. Rush prohibited nearly all agencies that tend toward popularizing and extending the use of a library. L
tures or exhibits were not to be
far as this storehouse of books
concerned. In his will he d
"The said Library Company
cause, allow or permit any le
lic orations or oral address
tions of a
delivered
take p
lot of
said

A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or all
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculpt
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

tor, with his executor, Henry J. Williams, had drafted plans for the building and, after considering a number of sites, Williams had secured the one running from Broad to Thirteenth and from Christian to Carpenter streets. When the question of accepting the bequest was submitted to the managers and members of the Library Company they were at first opposed to its acceptance on the ground that the site was too remote from the homes of their members. By bill in equity they sought to restrain the executor from erecting the Ridgway Branch so far downtown. For two years the litigation dragged on until the Supreme Court dismissed the bill, the Library, five years later, in 1878, accepting the bequest and taking possession on the sixth of May in that year.

Site Chosen a Matter of Litigation

Since then, following the instructions of the testator, the building has been open from nine in the morning until sun-down, except on Sundays. Part of the collection of the Library Company—whose main building at Juniper and Locust streets is actively used and filled with many works of light reading and popular interest that Dr. Rush would not have approved—is housed at the Ridgway Branch. No other institution of as little use can boast as fine a building or as spacious grounds as the one at Broad and Christian streets. But only by reason of the fact that Williams was able to secure that site at a relatively low price was the city saved from having an idle property of this sort in a more central location. Among the sites previously considered by him and Dr. Rush, as suitable locations for the institution, was the old freight depot on the south side of Market street, between Thirteenth and Juniper, the former Reading depot at Broad and Cherry, the lot occupied now by the School of Industrial Art at Broad and Pine streets, and the site of the Aldine Hotel, on Chestnut street above Nineteenth.

INSTRUCTION—BO

EARN while you learn mod
play merchandising, show
and store window trim
cialized system of
to quickly become
art of retail m
knowledge o
will be a
more m
mation
Harr

---

nd How to Pick Up
Pleasantly and Usefully,"
Why They Are So Enter-
o Use Library Books and a
Book Bindings," "How to
dge About Other Worlds."
Holman has kindly prom-
ecturer with his tele-micro-
llustrations of the subjects
l be exhibited each evening.

f
e
a
is
n
ts
l-
of

---

n.

HE BROOKLINE LIBRARY.

OF THE NATION:

e in your issue for August 22
ing, "The head of the Public
okline, Mass.," was published
er was in Europe, and I have
as the explanation of the fact
hat you have not been asked to
statement with which the note
is library keeps in circulation a full
the trashiest novels in existence."
egret that no one authorized to speak for
t library has protested against this extreme
verstatement, but would like, at this late
date, to ask you to do better justice to one
our most representative smaller public libraries, and so to the general practice of our libraries in the matter of fiction. It is simply untrue that the library (as represented in its

ur note)
stence"
shy fic
es. The
is cata-
sweep-
ur, viz., Mrs.
Mrs. Holmes, and
here are others whose
ould better not appear in
would confer a real benefit
ary fraternity if you would name
so help us in our efforts to get a
f the best opinion as to where we
the line.) Now this quartet of
ers do confessedly write trash, but
t it is far from being the "trashi-
xistence." And to call the seven-
s given under these names collec-
much less than all their works) a
of the trashiest kind," approaches
a dangerous sort. It may or may
for the public libraries to circulate
on that point there are differing
ong equally competent and well-
rarians and library directors. But
logue which presents almost an
f writers of sound and wholesome
ld, by its inclusion of so small a
f (I repeat, *not* "the trashiest")
such a library as that at Brookline
ere a reproach as you have visited
to use moderate terms, at least re

W. I. FLETCHER.

LLEGE LIBRARY, October 21, 1895.

s to be merely a difference of
tween us and Mr. Fletcher as
constitutes "trash." We did
at the Brookline Library con-
ajority of trashy novels, or that
r part of its fiction was trash,
aintain that it has the most
e have always heard the works
uthworth cited as the type, the
rm, of trashiness. We noticed
ce of these books in the Brookline Library with surprise, because that town is much above the average in cultivation, having no very poor or factory population. The constituency of the Salem Library is, we believe, below that of Brookline in this respect, yet none of th
authors referred to are represented in i
catalogue (August, 1895), nor in that
Peoria, Ill. (1894), with a population nea
ly four times as great. We may add th
we expressed no opinion as to wheth
"it may or may not be best for the publ
libraries to circulate trash."—ED. N
TION.]

"DISCORDANT CHURCH UNITY."

se
bition
desired

In its o
now works o
peal to the an
the Ridgway Li
value, but the cas
after light literature,
who seeks entertainme
cation, will find little t
Rush was emphatic in
dicils:

"I do not wish that any w
be excluded from the library
count of its difference from th
nary or conventional opinions, o
subjects of science, government, th
ogy, morals or medicine, provided
contains neither ribaldry nor indecency. Temperate, sincere and intelligent inquiry and discussion are only to be dreaded by the advocates of error. The truth need not fear them. Nor do I wish the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library to be encumbered with the ephemeral biographies, novels and works of fiction or amusement, newspapers or periodicals, which form so large a part of the current literature of the day. The great object of a public library is to bring within reach of the reader and student works which private collections do not, and cannot, contain, and which, in no other way, could be accessible to the public." Quality, not quantity, was to prevail. "Its excellence," the codicil states, "will depend not upon the number of its volumes but upon their intrinsic value, and I wish this principle to be carried out by the managers, who, I hope, will never be influenced by the too common ambition for mere numerical superiority."

No Fiction and No Newspapers

The Ridgway Branch was not to be a place of resort for idlers. The idea of a free library such as the city has now provided, with in-door and out-door reading places, and even accommodations for smokers, would have been abhorrent to him. A Periodical Room, now the place of most frequent resort by library visitors, was not in his plan. The Ridgway Branch was to be only for the serious minded. "Let it not keep cushioned seats for time wasters and lounging readers," he declared in another codicil to this strange testament, "nor places for every day novels, mind-tainting reviews, controversial politics, scribblings of poetry and prose, biographies of unknown names, nor for those teachers of disjointed thinking, the daily newspapers, except, perhaps, for reference." And, lest the Library Company be unable to fulfill all these instructions, by becoming associated with any other corporate body, private or public, he expressly barred it from any such association. For there are, as he stated, "public spirited citizens" who are "consequential spendthrifts, who, under the plea of patriotic improvements and of ornamenting a city, multiply government taxes and embarrass the funds of scientific, literary and charitable, as well as municipal institutions, over which, by popular artifice, they have gained a control."

So the "dead hand" rests heavily on the million dollar gift Dr. Rush gave to the book lovers. For a time, shortly after his death, it looked as if the alternative bequest, of an independently managed free library, might be fulfilled. Before his death the Doc-

---

On

PENN WEEKLY REVIEW.

ege, was grad-
in 1817, receiv-
in course. He
shop Hobart, of
ained to the full
l Church in 1822,
ia as general as-
. He held vari-
iladelphia, and in
stee of the Uni-
period when the
sity were at their
the years immedi-
date stringent ef-
for its rehabilita-
an effort in 1828
cted Provost, var-
ade at the same
that office. The
wed an improve-
f students and in
Lancey resigned
334. In 1839 he
op of the newly
estern New York
h position he de-
of his life, resid-
52 he attended the
of the British So-
tion of the Gospel
ne of the two rep-
merican House of
occasion was the
to be recognized
heir own body by

e repeatedly and
He was active in
anization and legis-
umental in placing
everal other educa-
a firm basis. He
ing honorary de-
vinity from Yale in
s from Union Col-
ctor of Civil Laws
nd, in 1852.
a, New York, April

edition, nor a recent reprint, which might not include the addenda which the first edition had. Have you ever looked at a geography of the United States, say in 1827—or a geography of the world for that matter? You can find it there, and it will be a revelation to you, if you have never tried it. These illustrations suggest the possibilities in our use of this great collection, a collection by the way, which scholars cross the ocean to consult, and not infrequently either. Curiously enough, the quest of some of these visitors from abroad is its superb collection of ancient classics. This latter was the finest one in America, in Franklin's youth, and is one of the rare ones of the world now.

"The University would do a great public service if it could get a man like Dr. Mitchell to lecture on the great treasures of Philadelphia, for this library is only, in some respects, the chief among many.

"Sincerely.
"(Signed) BURTON ALVA KONKLE."

In the Century Magazine for May, 1883, is a very interesting article on this old institution by its present librarian, Mr. Samuel, which should be read by any one who is interested in this subject

---

Reception to Chief Justice Mitchell

At the Thirteenth Annual Meeting o
The Pennsylvania Bar Association, hel
June 25, 26 and 27, 1907, at Bedfor
Springs, Pa., it was unanimously r
solved to tender the Honorable Jam
T. Mitchell, LL.D., Chief Justice of t
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a co
plimentary reception and banquet
honor of the completion of fifty ye
since his admission to the Bar on N
vember 10, 1857.
Chief Justice Mitchell has accep

---

endowment. It is 1865

---

wa
r. W
hese,
entle
n the
er of
Mr. Si
Mr. W
Sears
gentle
others
were
wood,
finishe
archit
20 fee
octag
ing y
Mr. M
origi
valua
sente
Mr.
book
impo
have
report
large d
some r
our co
King w
includi
volume
D'Wolf
Robert
of valua
income t
uanes) w
closed n
the essa
raits," w
on from
ever, we
cition of
y Mrs. W.
. Nichol
iquities o
olio), wit
simile rep
to Virgin
containing
ings, were
Providence
"Medallion
taining 17
Jacquemar
Mr. Wm.
dence, pres
fully illust
and Humph
Ages, giving
progress of
branch of pictori
to the seventeen
of examples o
selected from
cripts of th
stone and
Audubon's "
illustrated
being of
Wright
Bonar
Italia
ceive
Harv
umes,
than M
views of
and por
sented by
the library is
gifts. "The C
dred copies ha
years ago, and
Mr. George C. M
Panon, a desce
founder, and a p
French works,
son's "American

ER—
e con
nas K
omple
entl
sh a
the
y,
e als
ew h
t as
he c
men
inter
s. T
nts
invit
mee

---

hum without the costly sacri
fidelity and tone range...witho
ing of power and dulling of low
which owners of ordinary sets m
hum is reduced in defiance of ele
and experience!

Think of it! All this at the se
price...only $54 (less Radiotr

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRARY

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venerable Institution.

STARTED WITH THE CENTURY

Many
Coun
the
L

ates
Law
be
ed

A lawn fet
of the Lang
yesterday afte
of Henry W.
of that delight
The several hu
resented not o
families in the
but large delega
Bristol, Newtow
ton, Torresdale
ing boroughs w
The Langhorn
most interesting
est in Bucks C
in 1800 as the "
when the villa
Lanes' End," an
of books was ke
try stores. In 1
brary had flouris
that a charter w
Supreme Court o
sheepskin docume
ble ink, and signe
Shippen, Jasper
and Hughes He
still carefully pre
brary's archives.

EARLY SUBSCRIBE

The old books
that among its su
men of prominen
and not a few wh
high position in
them being the N
sons, Woolstons, I
Craigs, Atherton
Hulmes and a nu
records also show
the library was c
that subscribers w
count for damag
stance, one memor
November 4, 1800,
turned 'Hook's R
grease spot on pag
The old library
years, but when
expired, in 1870, i
greatly that the a
tinued and the c
at public sale. B
loss to the commu
a few years afte
library was reorg
volumes, and He
promotor of reorg
charge as preside
charter was obtain
subscriptions a s
cured. Ten years
Mary Williamson,
V. Williamson, b
the association, $1
building and a fu
terest of which is a
of books.

NOW THE PRIDE

The library is to-
the pride of Langh
umes on its shelves
bers. Subscriptions
tenance, and an ac
agers directs its affa
remains president of
the other managers
Miss Lillie Allen,
Amos Satterthwaite
and Robert Ivins.
The spacious la
manor was beautif
evening and enoug
from the festivities
short addresses in
of the library and
port. One of the s
Warwick, whose s
Langhorne. Mr. W
his praises of the
appeals to the prid
and Langhorne fo
the library were v
A substantial sum w
fete.

OF

The College Settlement's Free Library
in St. Mary Street.

BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Men and Things

The "Dead Hand" Rules and Hinders In the Case of the Million Dollar Ridgway Library, Little Used and Missing Its Opportunity

PHILADELPHIA'S largest mausoleum, the Ridgway Library, whose lack of use has evoked the criticism of A. Edward Newton, has long been a conspicuous example of the crippling influence of "the dead hand." For nearly a half century the big building at Broad and Christian streets has attracted attention as an imposing structure. In its architectural impressiveness it has been one of the adornments of the city. A visitor passing by and being merely informed that it was the home of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library no doubt would consider it a notable example of the interest of the city in literature and learning. But, as Mr. Newton says, it is of little service. Possibly no other library in the city is as little used. Visitors and readers are rare. Although it is well maintained by the private library company which looks after it, and which received it as the gift of Dr. James Rush, the son of the Revolutionary patriot and physician, Benjamin Rush, it is, to all intents and purposes, only a place for the "dead storage" of books, though a person can, on request, consult volumes, or, if a member of the Library Company of Philadelphia, take one out on loan.

It was the intent of Dr. Rush to stimulate the reading of useful books, to found a library where students might congregate, and he not only provided for the safe keeping of the treasures of the old library on Fifth street but stated that if the Library Company, of which he was a member, did not take over the institution it should be opened as "a free library."

But, except so far as members of the Library Company are concerned, the Ridgway Library has never been free in the sense of allowing a reader to borrow a book for home study. Whether it can ever be made so is a question, as the will of the eccentric donor greatly circumscribes its service.

Dr. Rush was an omnivorous reader, who spent the greater part of his life in seclusion among his books in the mansion on Chestnut street that later became a part of the Aldine Hotel. He declared he owed a great deal to the Library Company. Accordingly the institution was to be operated by that company, but only on the fulfillment of certain conditions. These stipulations, at variance with modern methods of library administration, have kept the Ridgway Branch chiefly an idle monument to the donor and his wife, Phoebe Ann, daughter of Jacob Ridgway, who are buried within its grounds.

Dr. Rush prohibited nearly all agencies that tend toward popularizing and
extending the use of a library. L
tures or exhibits were not to be
far as this storehouse of books
concerned. In his will he d
"The said Library Company
cause, allow or permit any le
lic orations or oral address
tions of a
delivered
take p
lot o
said

A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or all
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculptu
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

tor, with his executor, Henry J. Williams, had drafted plans for the building and, after considering a number of sites, Williams had secured the one running from Broad to Thirteenth and from Christian to Carpenter streets. When the question of accepting the bequest was submitted to the managers and members of the Library Company they were at first opposed to its acceptance on the ground that the site was too remote from the homes of their members. By bill in equity they sought to restrain the executor from erecting the Ridgway Branch so far downtown. For two years the litigation dragged on until the Supreme Court dismissed the bill, the Library, five years later, in 1878, accepting the bequest and taking possession on the sixth of May in that year.

Site Chosen a Matter of Litigation

Since then, following the instructions of the testator, the building has been open from nine in the morning until sun-down, except on Sundays. Part of the collection of the Library Company—whose main building at Juniper and Locust streets is actively used and filled with many works of light reading and popular interest that Dr. Rush would not have approved—is housed at the Ridgway Branch. No other institution of as little use can boast as fine a building or as spacious grounds as the one at Broad and Christian streets. But only by reason of the fact that Williams was able to secure that site at a relatively low price was the city saved from having an idle property of this sort in a more central location. Among the sites previously considered by him and Dr. Rush, as suitable locations for the institution, was the old freight depot on the south side of Market street, between Thirteenth and Juniper, the former Reading depot at Broad and Cherry, the lot occupied now by the School of Industrial Art at Broad and Pine streets, and the site of the Aldine Hotel, on Chestnut street above Nineteenth.

---

nd How to Pick Up
Pleasantly and Usefully,"
Why They Are So Enter-
o Use Library Books and a
Book Bindings," "How to
dge About Other Worlds."
Holman has kindly prom-
ecturer with his tele-micro-
llustrations of the subjects
l be exhibited each evening.

---

n.

ur note)
stence"
shy fi
es.
is

line Libra
town is m
vation, h
populatio
lem Libr
Brooklin
authors
catalogu
Peoria,
ly four t
we exp
"it may
librarie
TION.]

HE BROOKLINE LIBRARY.

OF THE NATION:

e in your issue for August 22
ing, "The head of the Public
okline, Mass.," was published
er was in Europe, and I have
as the explanation of the fact
hat you have not been asked to
statement with which the note
his library keeps in circulation a full
the trashiest novels in existence."
egret that no one authorized to speak for
t library has protested against this extreme
verstatement, but would like, at this late
date, to ask you to do better justice to one
our most representative smaller public libr
ries, and so to the general practice of our libraries in the matter of fiction. It is simply untrue that the library (as represented in its

---

INSTRUCTION—BO

EARN while you learn mod
play merchandising. show
and store window trim
cialized system of our,
to quickly become Mrs
art of retail m s,
knowledge here a
will be a
more m ould be
mation
Harr would cor
ary fraternsily
so help Price
.50

Night in February

You Will Lik

$89

Th
get t
credi
elsev
chai
desig
velo

Rug
WILTON VEL

9x12 "Sanford's Westchester"

9x12 Seamless "Ardsley" Axminster

Lincoln Tapestry
$17.95

Genuine
per
sq. yd.

Stern & Co.—Third Floor

rn&C

then entering Yale College, was graduated Bachelor of Arts in 1817, receiving the Master's degree in course. He studied divinity with Bishop Hobart, of New York, and was ordained to the full ministry of the Episcopal Church in 1822, and came to Philadelphia as general assistant to Bishop White. He held various clerical offices in Philadelphia, and in 1826 was chosen a Trustee of the University. This was the period when the fortunes of the University were at their lowest ebb and during the years immediately succeeding that date stringent efforts were being made for its rehabilitation. As part of such an effort in 1828 Dr. De Lancey was elected Provost, various changes being made at the same time in the duties of that office. The next three years showed an improvement in the number of students and in other respects. Dr. De Lancey resigned the Provostship in 1834. In 1839 he was elected first Bishop of the newly created Diocese of Western New York to the duties of which position he devoted the remainder of his life, residing at Geneva. In 1852 he attended the fifteenth anniversary of the British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, as one of the two representatives of the American House of Bishops, and on this occasion was the first American Bishop to be recognized officially as one of their own body by the Anglican Bishops.

He visited Europe repeatedly and traveled extensively. He was active in matters of church organization and legislation, and was instrumental in placing Hobart College and several other educational institutions on a firm basis. He received the following honorary degrees: Doctor of Divinity from Yale in 1827; Doctor of Laws from Union College in 1849, and Doctor of Civil Laws from Oxford, England, in 1852.

He died in Geneva, New York, April 5, 1865.

Burton A. Konkle Calls Attention to the Ridgway Library.

The following letter will be of interest to many University members and alumni. It concerns the value and importance of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library. The letter was received from the founder, and former curator, of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Museum, in the Law School Building, of the University:

"Editor of OLD PENN:

"I have had for many years a great admiration for the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, and I know that its collection is most widely appreciated among the most scholarly men in our city. I have wondered, therefore, why I had never seen any public expression of this appreciation, in the face of not infrequent press references to it in a critical tone. Of course, I am peculiarly interested in it as an historical treasure. Think what it means for a quasi-public library of the ancient, or early metropolis and capital of America, with all the culture that that implies, being a choice contemporary collection of the best books every year practically for one hundred and seventy-five years. Why there's nothing equal to it in America in this one respect alone. Indeed, in a certain sense, an even longer period is covered, for books were added to it that had become famous in the generation previous to 1731 when they began to buy. For instance, a few days ago Thomas' little book on Pennsylvania, issued about thirty-three years before that, was sold by Henkels for above $800. This old library had four copies of it, and still has two. A few years ago I found a letter from a Philadelphia judge to a Scotch physician near Aberdeen. The judge was a member of this old library at that date, 1794, and drew the attention of the physician to an incident related in a copy of Boswell's 'Johnson', which he had just glanced over in the library. The incident was about an unnamed physician, and the judge wanted to know if it was his correspondent, and it proved so to be. That very volume which the judge used is there now—not a later edition, nor a recent reprint, which might not include the addenda which the first edition had. Have you ever looked at a geography of the United States, say in 1827—or a geography of the world for that matter? You can find it there, and it will be a revelation to you, if you have never tried it. These illustrations suggest the possibilities in our use of this great collection, a collection by the way, which scholars cross the ocean to consult, and not infrequently either. Curiously enough, the quest of some of these visitors from abroad is its superb collection of ancient classics. This latter was the finest one in America, in Franklin's youth, and is one of the rare ones of the world now.

"The University would do a great public service if it could get a man like Dr. Mitchell to lecture on the great treasures of Philadelphia, for this library is only, in some respects, the chief among many.

"Sincerely.

"(Signed) BURTON ALVA KONKLE."

In the Century Magazine for May, 1883, is a very interesting article on this old institution by its present librarian, Mr. Samuel, which should be read by any one who is interested in this subject

---

Reception to Chief Justice Mitchell

At the Thirteenth Annual Meeting o The Pennsylvania Bar Association, hel June 25, 26 and 27, 1907, at Bedfor Springs, Pa., it was unanimously r solved to tender the Honorable Jam T. Mitchell, LL.D., Chief Justice of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a co plimentary reception and banquet honor of the completion of fifty ye since his admission to the Bar on N vember 10, 1857.

Chief Justice Mitchell has accep this invitation, and Saturday, Noven 23, 1907, at 7 o'clock, P. M., at Ho cultural Hall, in the City of Philac phia, has been designated as the ti and place for this interesting event.

The Hon. Dimner Beeber is Treasu of the Committee, composed of the f lowing members of the Bar: J. B. Co han, Jr., William H. Staake, Irving Wanger, John Marshall Gest, H. S. Nichols.

Professor John Dennis Mahoney t Lecture.

John Dennis Mahoney, Esq., '01 C. '04 Law, Professor of the Department of Language and Literature in Northeast Manual Training High School, will give a free public lecture in the auditorium of the school at Eighth street and Lehigh Avenue, on Tuesday evening, December 17, 1907, on "John Greenleaf Whittier" on the occasion of the Whittier Centenary.

Professor Mahoney is one of Pennsylvania's boys who has made marked progress since graduation. He was active in all the varied interests of college life, including athletics, and a successful newspaper correspondent. His name was favorably mentioned in connection with the directorship of the new Southern Manual Training School.

Army and Navy Boxes Sold.

The annual auction sale of boxes for the Army and Navy football game on November 30, was held on Wednesday, Nov. 6, and thirty-two boxes were sold for an aggregate of $3010. Among the purchasers were the following:—Provost Harrison, George S. Graham, John B. Parsons, George D. Widener, Joseph Rosengarten, George H. Frazier, James W. Paul, Craige Lippincott, Edward M. Robinson, Judge J. W. Martin, Henry M. Warren, George C. Thomas, D. D. Greenwald, William T. Wright, J. F. Hoffman, Alfred C. Harrison, James Elverson, Jr., Frederick Hemsley.

The Esperanto Club will meet every Monday, at 7.30 P. M., in Houston Hall. All members of the University who desire to investigate the subject or study the language are invited to attend.

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRA

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venera
Institution.

ates
Law
be
A la ed
of the
yesterda
of Henr
of that c
The seve
resented
families
but large
Bristol,
ton, Torr
ing boro
The La
most inte
est in B
in 1800 a
when the
Lanes' En
of books v
try stores.
brary had
that a ch
Supreme C
sheepskin
ble ink, an
Shippen, J
and Hugh
still carefu
brary's ar
EARLY SU
The old
that amon
men of pr
and not a
high posit
them being
sons, Wool
Craigs. A
Hulmes ar
records als
the library
that subsc
count for
stance, on
November
turned 'H
grease spo
The old
years, but
expired, in
greatly th
tinued an
at public
loss to the
a few yea
library wa
volumes, a
promotor c
charge as
charter wa
subscriptio
cured. Ter
Mary Will
V. William
the associa
building an
terest of wl
of books.
NOW T
The librar
the pride o
umes on its
bers. Subsc
tenance, an
agers direct
remains pre
the other m
Miss Lillie
Amos Satte
and Robert
The spac
manor was
evening an
from the fe
short addre
of the libra
port. One
Warwick,
Langhorne.
his praises
appeals to
and Langh
the library
A substantia
fete.

BULLETIN—PH

Men and T

The "Dead Hand" Rules a
In the Case of the Milli
Ridgway Library, Lit
and Missing Its Oppo

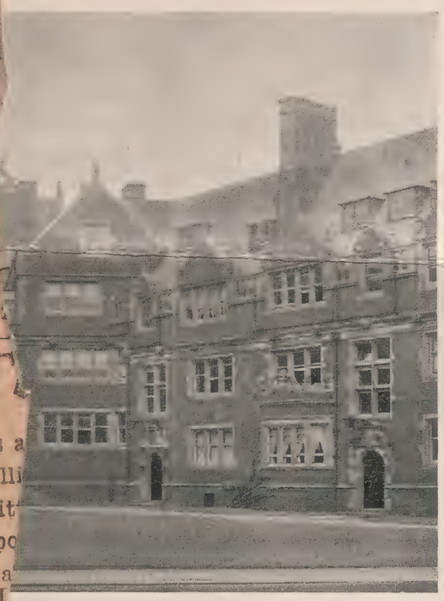
PHILADELPHIA's la
leum, the Ridgway L
lack of use has evo
cism of A. Edward Nev
been a conspicuous exam
pling influence of "the d
nearly a half century t
at Broad and Christian
tracted attention as an
ture. In its architectu
ness it has been one of
of the city. A visitor
being merely informed th
home of the Ridgway L
Philadelphia Library no
consider it a notable exa
interest of the city in li
learning. But, as Mr. Ne
is of little service. Possib
library in the city is as
Visitors and readers are rare
it is well maintained by the
brary company which looks a
which received it as the
James Rush, the son of the
ary patriot and physician,
Rush, it is, to all intents an
only a place for the "dead
books, though a person can,
consult volumes, or, if a
the Library Company of P
take one out on loan.

It was the intent of D
stimulate the reading of use
found a library where stu
congregate, and he not o
for the safe keeping of t
of the old library on Fift
stated that if the Library
which he was a mem
take over the institution
opened as "a free library.
But, except so far as
Library Company are
Ridgway Library has n
in the sense of allowin
borrow a book for home
er it can ever be made
as the will of the eccen
ly circumscribes its se
Dr. Rush was an on
who spent the greater
in seclusion among
mansion on Chestnut
became a part of the
declared he owed a
Library Company.
stitution was to be
company, but only o
certain conditions.
at variance with m
brary administrati
Ridgway Branch
monument to the
Phoebe Ann, daug
way, who are buri
Dr. Rush prohi
cies that tend to
extending the us
tures or exhibits
far as this stor
concerned. In
"The said Librat
cause, allow or p
lic orations or o

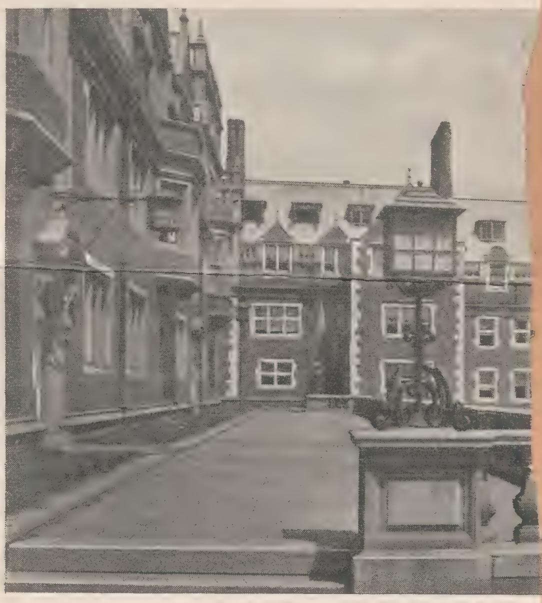
A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or al
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculptu
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
xp

GLIMPSES OF THE DORMITORIES



TTLE QUAD



BIG QUAD

RMITORY STEPS

THE TERRACE

stra furnished music last season e: The Camera Club, Alpha Chi b, Drexel Institute Athletic Association, Hare Law Club, Cercle Francais, mma Delta Beta, and for the Med-Chi Hospital Nurses' Christmas ance, University of Pennsylvania Hostal Nurses' Alumnæ Dance, Miss Alice hoettle's Dinner Dance, and University nnual Vaudeville Show.

The Leader is Robert R. Drummond, nd the Manager is Russell L. Browne, 323 Walnut Street.

Dormitory Officials.

At a meeting of the Parietal Committee, of the University of Pennsylvania, held on Tuesday evening, October 29th, the following list of officers was announced for the session of 1907-8:

Parietal Committee: Edward C. Kirk, D.D.S., Sc.D., Chairman, 554 S. Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne, Pa., Dental Hall; Nathaniel Gildersleeve, M.D., Secretary, 218 McKean Dormitories, Hygiene Laboratory; Walter T. Taggart, Ph.D., 20 Wilson Dormitories, Harrison Chemical Laboratory; Edwin B. Twitmyer, Ph.D., 138 Hopkinson Dormitories, College Hall; Charles S. Redding, B.S., 109 Franklin Dormitories, Engineering Building; Charles Travis, Ph.D., 26 Coxe Dormitories, College Hall.

Representative Committee: Officers—President, William A. DeWitt; Vice-President, Henry B. Davis; Secretary, Raymond J. Mullen.

Executive Committee: William A. DeWitt, Chairman; Hiester H. Muhlenberg, J. Howard Rahter, Alexander M. Borrie.

Representatives: Hugo J. Means, '08 M., 406 Phillips Brooks; Holmes F. Troutman, '08 M., 314 Joseph Leidy; Kenneth Howie, '09 C., 211 Franklin; Arthur H. Hopper, '09 M., 337 Foerderer; Hiester H. Muhlenberg, '08 C., 221 McKean; Howard W. Fulweiler, '08 C., 351 Baldwin; J. Howard Rahter, '08 M., 353 Class of '87; J. C. McCaffrey, '08 C., 360 Craig; Maskell Ewing, Jr., '08 L., 235 Baird; William DeWitt, '08 M., 238 Fitler; John L. Howell, '08 C., 368 Hopkinson; George Mitchell, '08 C., 242 Provost Smith; Henry B. Davis, '10 M., 389 Lippincott; Robert W. Meeker, '09 D., 144 Carruth; Osmond M. Baxter, '09 C., 392 New York Alumni; Clarence C. Loveland, '10 C., 56 Memorial Tower; Edward L. Crosby, '10 C., 38 Morgan; Harry L. Baum, '10 M., 21 Wilson; Claude L. Peterman, '09 C., 23 Morris; R. J. Mullen, '08 M., 34 Bodine; Alexander M. Borrie, '10 C., 35 Edgar F. Smith; J. Walter Jones, 30 Coxe; Charles C. Hindman, '09 L., 29 Rodney.

A Guide for Those Who Desire to Make Gifts.

For the guidance of those who may desire—during life, or by testamentary bequest—to make benefactions to the University, the following information is given:

1. The corporate name is The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.
2. The sum of $100,000 is the amount necessary to found a full professorship in any one of the departments. The principal is invested and the income alone used, and the donor has the privilege of naming the professorship.
3. The sum of $50,000 is the cost of a dormitory house; the contributor having the privilege of naming the house. There can be no more substantial or beneficent memorials than such additions to the University's beautiful, but incomplete, dormitory system.
4. The sum of $10,000 is the principal sum to establish a Fellowship in any one of the departments; the income being paid to the Fellow, who devotes his time to original work and study; with the privilege of a very moderate amount of teaching work, under the permission of the Dean of the Department.
5. The sum of $5,000 endows a Free Scholarship in the College or in any one of the Professional Schools. The income of this sum remits tuition fees, and the donor has the right, during life, to nominate to the Scholarship, subject to all the rules of the University.
6. A like sum ($5,000) endows a Free Bed in the Hosp
and,
7. The sum
vate Room in

The Provo
be glad to g
any question
as above sta
sons who n
knowledge.

Directors o

At a meeti
tors of the A
the Gymnasiu
November 5,
tee on Allie
was given th
Red and Blu
pose of send
last summer
While con
sylvania pla
$4,665.66, le
the treasur
time in th
that the cr
on hand.
The elec
captaincy c
elin to the
track team
managersh
R. B. Hi
fencing te
of Directo
lected to
chael, as

Philomat

The Ph
Carolina
at Chape
ning, No
"Resolve
reduced
gress."
A sm
will ac
posed
Walte

---

y
l Lik

uine
per
q. yd.
d Floor

d Edwin
ss in
me carry
obviously
change
knew it.

On

Buys th

RCA

The radio va
amazed the i

HERE is the finest tribute to
and manufacturing skill c
poration of America...an ama
ment that will outperform m
double...yet at a price less th
table model.

By far the biggest radio buy c
is everything you expect of
beauty of tone...realism that
expensive sets can match...sel
sitivity that only RCA can bu
instrument.

In addition, you get the adde
another great Radiola achieve
the freedom from distorting nois
hum without the costly sacri
fidelity and tone range...withou
ing of power and dulling of low
which owners of ordinary sets m
hum is reduced in defiance of ele
and experience!

Think of it! All this at the sen
price...only $54 (less Radiotr
value that none but the leader
can produce.

Today...see and hear this ma
ment...compare it with even t
sive models and you'll understa
Radiola 33 is the fastest selling r

RADIOLA DIVISI

RCA

MADE BY

---

wai
r. W
hese,
entle
n the
er of
Mr. Si
Mr. W
Sears
gentle
others
were
wood,
finishe
archit
20 fee
octag
ing y
Mr. M
origi
valua
ente
Mr.
book
impo
have
report
large
some
our
King
includi
volume
D'Wolf
Robert
of valua
income
uses) w
losed
the ess
raits,"
on from
ever, we
oition of
y Mrs. W
. Nichol
iquities
ohio), wi
simile rep
to Virgi
containin
ings, were
Providence
"Medallio
taining 17
Jacquema
Mr. Wm.
dence, pre
fully illust
and Humph
Ages, givi
progress o
branch of pictori
to the seventeen
of examples o
selected from
cripts of th
stone and print
Audubon's "Viti
illustrated with 15
being of natural s
Wright. An intere
Bonaparte, entitle
Italica" (1841), ha
ceived from Mr. Ch
Harvard College boo
umes, very fully il
than Matthews, and
views of the interior
and portraits of offi
sented by Mr. Georg
the library is indebt
gifts. "The Cottag
dred copies handso
years ago, and well
Mr. George C. Mason
Panon, a descendan
founder, and a previ
French works, rece
son's "American Or

ER—PHIL

be completed nex
onas K. Finletter
ompletion at Fro

ently started a
sh a recreation c
the chairmansh
y, 6138 North
e also making p
ew high school
t as a present f
he development
ment this asosci
interest in the we
s. They have en
nts to visit th
invited the teach
meetings to en
n between th
is a harmonic
ighty boys

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRARY

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venerable Institution.

ates
Law
be
ed
A
of t
yeste
of H
of th
The s
resent
famili
but la
Bristo
ton, T
ing b
The
most i
est in
in 180
when
Lanes'
of book
try sto
brary l
that a
Suprem
sheepsk
ble ink,
Shippen
and H
still car
brary's
EARLY
The
that am
men of
and not
high p
them b
sons, W
Craigs,
Hulmes
records
the libr
that su
count
stance,
Novem
turned
grease
The
years,
expired,
greatly
tinued
at publi
loss to
a few
library
volumes,
promoto
charge
charter
subscrip
cured. T
Mary W
V. Willi
the asso
building
terest of
of books.
NOW
The libr
the pride
umes on
bers. Su
tenance,
agers dire
remains
the other
Miss Lil
Amos Sa
and Rob
The sp
manor w
evening
from the
short add
of the li
port. On
Warwick,
Langhorn
his praise
appeals t
and Lan
the librar
A substan
fete.

BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, F

Men and Things

The "Dead Hand" Rules and Hinders In the Case of the Million Dollar Ridgway Library, Little Used and Missing Its Opportunity

PHILADELPHIA'S largest mausoleum, the Ridgway Library, whose
lack of use has ev
cism of A. Edward New
been a conspicuous exam
pling influence of "the de
nearly a half century th
at Broad and Christian
tracted attention as an i
ture. In its architectu
ness it has been one of
of the city. A visitor
being merely informed t
home of the Ridgway
Philadelphia Library n
consider it a notable
interest of the city in
learning. But, as Mr.
is of little service. P
library in the city i
Visitors and readers ar
it is well maintained
brary company which
which received it as
James Rush, the son
ary patriot and ph
Rush, it is, to all int
only a place for the
books, though a pers
consult volumes, or,
the Library Compa
take one out on loan

It was the inten
stimulate the readin
found a library wh
congregate, and he
for the safe keepi
of the old library
stated that if the I
which he was a
take over the insti
opened as "a free li
But, except so fa
Library Company
Ridgway Library
in the sense of al
borrow a book for
er it can ever be m
as the will of the e
ly circumscribes its
Dr. Rush was an
who spent the grea
in seclusion among
mansion on Chestn
became a part of th
declared he owed
Library Company.
stitution was to b
company, but only
certain conditions.
at variance with mo
brary administration
Ridgway Branch
monument to the do
Phoebe Ann, daughte
way, who are buried w

Dr. Rush prohibited
cies that tend toward
extending the use of
tures or exhibits we
far as this storehou
concerned. In his
"The said Library Co
cause, allow or permit
lic orations or oral ad
tions o
deliver
take p
lot of
said

A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or al
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculptu
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

tor, with his exec
Williams, had draft
building and, after c
ber of sites, William
one running from Br
and from Christian t
When the question o
quest was submitted
and
Libra
were
its a

Site Chosen a Matter of Litigation

support of
ly received.
ized from the

A. DAVENPORT.

date, to ask y
our most represen
ries, and so to the
ries in the matter
true that the lib

[illegible] world cataclysm; [illegible] had seen the coming of the steam age and the telegraph and the consequent changes in the social order.

IN JAMES RUSH'S case, his conservatism took oddly peremptory forms, as though he had in mind certain persons whose way he much disliked and whose influence he wished to guard his money against.

He did not wish, for instance, "the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library to be encumbered with ephemeral biographies, novels, newspapers or periodicals." He did not wish travel or delegation expenses at librarians' conferences and institutes to form part of the budget expenses of the Ridgway Library officials. He had observed, he wrote in one codicil, that institutions "were the prey of schemers, who under the cloak of being public-spirited citizens have no hesitation in spending the money of other people in order to gratify their own vanity." Such persons, he adds, "pass so much of their time in the distraction of change from one place to another of popular importance that they have no opportunity for observation and reflection to gain intellect enough to comprehend the purpose of books or knowledge, and therefore can be of no service, but rather the means of disturbing the quiet duties of a public library."

He surely had more than one fellow citizen in mind, for he writes: "They are consequential spendthrifts, who under the plea of ornamenting a city misapply Government taxes and embarrass the funds of scientific, literary as well as moneyed institutions, over which by popular artifice they have gained a control. As a condition of my will, let the managers and contributors join to exclude all such persons from the direction of the library company."

WHAT was going on in Philadelphia in the way of city embellishments, one wonders, that James Rush found so annoying? Was it the landscaping of Fairmount Park? Or the building of the new hospital out in West Philadelphia as a branch of the old Pennsylvania? Did the trustees of the University begin to collect for green stone walls of the University about that time or was it the Academy of Music that was the provocation? Or was old Blockley in process of erection?

That the city was restless in its ancient quarters one guesses from this second proviso of the first codicil, in which James Rush authorizes his executor to increase the size of the lot for the library without regard to any previous provision of the will and the size of the library building itself. "But not," he stipulates, "an ambitious or competing increase of the library, but in order to prevent if possible its being torn down in twenty years and the lot sold at a speculative profit to suit" —and here is a quaint phrase—"to suit the hyperbole of the times."

The hyperbole of the times was to be if possible further handicapped by the contents of the library, which was to present a broad front against the inroads of fiction by not having fiction, at least to any appreciable extent.

James Rush quite too evidently felt the stemming of the tide of fiction a task to be addressed by libraries with zeal then or never, for he says in one of his codicils:

"I have a forlorn hope that the mind may yet be improved beyond a patronage or even a toleration of these crowds of graver or more puerile fictionists who mislead the idle, and of those garbling compilers who overlook or corrupt the truth of fuller and more useful works by purloining from their pages in attempt to abbreviate and render them popular." He adds in his last codicil: "Let it be a favor for the eminent works of fiction to be found on its shelves, but let it not keep cushioned seats for lounging readers."

This was written when Dickens and Thackeray and George Eliot were being read in first editions; when Bulwer Lytton, Cooper and Poe, and Dumas and Victor Hugo were forming literary tastes in this country for mystery and adventure, and when just back of our horizon and soon to be recognized as interpreters of life were Bret Harte and Mark Twain, Howells and James, Hardy and Meredith.

IT WAS indeed a forlorn hope that James Rush had! It was a simple matter to build a mausoleum over his departed wife and his father-in-law and himself that should endure beyond the "hyperbole" of the times. But to shut the door of a library against "everyday novels" and biography and the classics in edited editions was to shut it in the face of the next generation.

No wonder its clients are few, or that for all of the nobility of its wide and solemn elevation, its part in the life of the city hardly matters. There is a grim humor in the fact that on the site of the Rush mansion where James Rush wrote his will and its codicils there is a movie house.

EDGER—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDA

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

Will of James Rush Seems to Indicate That He Had a Good Time Writing It

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

LAST summer I read the last [illegible] and testament of Edwin Forrest, [illegible] I have just now taken an hour off to read the will and seven codicils appended thereto of James Rush, the son of Dr. Benjamin Rush, of early Philadelphia fame.

Both wills leave [illegible] with admiration [illegible] that both the gentlemen had in making them in the first place, and in tampering with the[illegible] from time to time by adding provisio[illegible] [illegible] and by philosoph[illegible]

[illegible] evil tendencies of the [illegible] hope of an amelioration [illegible] by their intended good, and [illegible] ing the law so to guard the[illegible] that none of the provisions fo[illegible] ministration of the property [illegible]

Quite evidently James Rush and Edwin Forrest had faith [illegible] in the future trustees who [illegible] out their wishes. And quite evidently neither contemplated any radical change in the material world as they knew it. Their confidence in their [illegible] [illegible]lous plans for [illegible]

veteran of
taken an
otor and
de away
river or
seems
s pas-
prece-
e the
York
city.
eces-
licate
such
h of
the
It
com-
ces
rdinary
But in
where
ulative
are
effort
sible

---

wa
r. W
hese,
entle
n the
ber of
Mr. Si
Mr. W
Sears
gentle
others
were
wood,
finishe
archit
20 feet
octag
ing ye
Mr. M
origi
valua
sente
Mr.
books
impor
have
report.
large d
some r
our co
King w
includi
volume
D'Wolf
Robert
of valuabl
income to
mes) wer
losed in
he essays
raits," wit
on from
ever, were
oition of t
y Mrs. Wm.
. Nichols
iquities of
olio), with 1
simile reprint
to Virginia
containing ab
ings, were p
Providence.
"Medallion H
taining 170 ex
Jacquemart, w
Mr. Wm. M. R
dence, presente
fully illustrated
and Humphrey's
Ages, giving an
progress of the
branch of pictori
to the seventeen
of examples o
selected from
cripts of th
stone and print
Audubon's "Vivip
illustrated with 15
being of natural s
Wright. An intere
Bonaparte, entitle
Italica" (1841), ha
ceived from Mr. Ch
Harvard College boo
umes, very fully il
than Matthews, and
views of the interior
and portraits of offic
sented by Mr. Georg
the library is indebt
gifts. "The Cottag
dred copies handso
years ago, and well
Mr. George C. Mason
Panon, a descendan
founder, and a previ
French works, rece
son's "American Or

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRARY

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venerable Institution.

BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, F

Men and Things

The "Dead Hand" Rules and Hinders In the Case of the Million Dollar Ridgway Library, Little Used and Missing Its Opportunity

PHILADELPHIA'S largest mausoleum, the Ridgway Library, whose lack of use has evoked the
cism of A. Edward Newton, ha
been a conspicuous example of th
pling influence of "the dead hand
nearly a half century the big b
at Broad and Christian streets
tracted attention as an imposing
ture. In its architectural imp
ness it
of the
being n
home o
Philadel
consider
interest
learning
is of li
library
Visitors a
it is well
brary com
which rec
James Rush
ary patriot
Rush, it is,
only a place
books, thoug
consult volu
the Library
take one out

It was the
stimulate the r
found a librar
congregate, an
for the safe k
of the old libra
stated that if th
which he was
take over the in
opened as "a free
But, except so
Library Company
Ridgway Library
in the sense of
borrow a book
er it can ev
as the will
ly circumscr
Dr. Rush
who spent
in seclusion
mansion on
became a pa
declared he
Library Com
stitution wa
company, bu
certain condi
at variance w
brary admin
Ridgway Bra
monument to
Phoebe Ann, d
way, who are buried within it.

Dr. Rush prohibited nearly
cies that tend toward popula
extending the use of a libr
tures or exhibits were not
far as this storehouse of
concerned. In his will he
"The said Library Company
cause, allow or permit any le
lic orations or oral address
tions of any
delivered is a
take p arm i
and hi
lot of s County
said support of
they cause or all ly received.
mation of any lized from the
or collection
ary, sculptu
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

A. DAVENPORT.

tor, with his executor, Henry J. Williams, had drafted plans for the building and, after considering a number of sites, Williams had secured the one running from Broad to Thirteenth and from Christian to Carpenter streets. When the question of accepting the bequest was submitted to the managers and members of the Library Company they were at first opposed to its acceptance on the

Site Chosen a Matter of Litigation

Civil War here … world cataclysm; both had seen the coming of the steam age and the telegraph and the consequent changes in the social order.

IN JAMES RUSH'S case, his conservatism took oddly peremptory forms, as though he had in mind certain persons whose way he much disliked and whose influence he wished to guard his money against.

He did not wish, for instance, "the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library to be encumbered with ephemeral biographies, novels, newspapers or periodicals." He did not wish travel or delegation expenses at librarians' conferences and institutes to form part of the budget expenses of the Ridgway Library officials. He had observed, he wrote in one codicil, that institutions "were the prey of schemers, who under the cloak of being public-spirited citizens have no hesitation in spending the money of other people in order to gratify their own vanity." Such persons, he adds, "pass so much of their time in the distraction of change from one place to another of popular importance that they have no opportunity for observation and reflection to gain intellect enough to comprehend the purpose of books or knowledge, and therefore can be of no service, but rather the means of disturbing the quiet duties of a public library."

He surely had more than one fellow citizen in mind, for he writes: "They are consequential spendthrifts, who under the plea of ornamenting a city misapply Government taxes and embarrass the funds of scientific, literary as well as moneyed institutions, over which by popular artifice they have gained a control. As a condition of my will, let the managers and contributors join to exclude all such persons from the direction of the library company."

WHAT was going on in Philadelphia in the way of city embellishments, one wonders, that James Rush found so annoying? Was it the landscaping of Fairmount Park? Or the building of the new hospital out in West Philadelphia as a branch of the old Pennsylvania? Did the trustees of the University begin to collect for green stone walls of the University about that time or was it the Academy of Music that was the provocation? Or was old Blockley in process of erection?

That the city was restless in its ancient quarters one guesses fr… cond proviso of the first … h James Rus… horize … increase … without … n of the … building … an am- … the li- … possible … rs and … o suit" … to suit … to be … the … is to … roads … st to … the … to … en

---

ER—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY,

e completed next year
mas K. Finletter School,
ompletion at Front and

cently started a cam-
h a recreation center
the chairmanship of
y, 6138 North 6th
e also making plans
ew high school with
t as a present from

he development of
ment this asosciation
interest in the wel-
s. They have en-
nts to visit the
invited the teach-
meetings to en-
n between the
us a harmonica
eighty have
which co
at the meetings. Eve
ciation escorts a grou
ren to Washington an
sors a trip to see th
ball at Shibe Park.
e thrift, the Big Fou
possible for the chil
enth and eighth grad
to start bank account
ldren each month sav
$600.
Reimel, 5608 Nort
is the founder an
the association, whil
North 3d street, on
members, with
is pre

Felton, an old-time resident; G. A.
Snook, former principal of the Fr
ford High School; Fredrick
phery and John Rieber.

"We started out with a
ideal," said Mr. Reimel today.
we kept persistently at it. W
kept in mind the needs of t
vidual child and tried to fill e
as we saw it. It has been kep
nonsectarian and nonpolitica
meeting is carefully planned,
the parents will come back

917
C
R
Balt
Harri
and
Pittsbu

---

this invitation, and Saturday, Noven
23, 1907, at 7 o'clock, P. M., at Ho
cultural Hall, in the City of Phila
phia, has been designated as the t
and place for this interesting event.

The Hon. Dimner Beeber is Treasu
of the Committee, composed of the f
lowing members of the Bar: J. B. Co
han, Jr., William H. Staake, Irving
Wanger, John Marshall Gest, H. S.
Nichols.

Professor John Dennis Mahoney t
Lect

Dennis

date, to any
our most representative smaller public li
ries, and so to the general practice of our libr
ries in the matter of fiction. It is simply
true that the library (as represented in

---

value that none but the leader
can produce.

Today…see and hear this ma
ment…compare it with even t
sive models and you'll understa
Radiola 33 is the fastest selling r

RADIOLA DIVISI

RCA

MADE BY

LD PHILADELPHIA in CARTOON and PICTURE

THE NORTH AMERICAN, PHILADELPHIA, SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 1909

the vitally human documents, which they view in the exhibition cases at the Ridgway, are at once inspiration and warning, for there were renegades and bribes, dire threats and weak poltroons; even as there were patriots and privation, stern defiance and men of unquenchable courage.

According to the eye and the mind that see it, the engraving, which bears the date of 1765 and is stamped with the genius of Benjamin Franklin in every feature of its text and composition, will appear an interesting curiosity of philately, of chief interest to stamp collectors, or a remarkable evidence of the long struggle with British public opinion, in the course of which, more than a decade before the open rupture came, the ablest spirits among the oppressed colonists were using every means of argument, persuasion and appeal to escape the struggle, which even the boldest of them foresaw must be terrifyingly desperate.

It is, indeed, an unusual publication, not merely because of its subject and its treatment, but because it gives proof that, nearly 150 years ago, the fertile invention of Franklin discerned the enormous possibilities of the modern picture postcard, supposed to be a thing altogether of modern enterprise.

The cartoon of Britannia and her colonies, prostrate and dismembered, bears the inscription:

> The Original Print done in England on the back of a Message Card, the Invention and for the Use of Benjamin Franklin, Esq., LL. D., Agent for the Province of Pennsylvania in London.

The title and the warning admonition that accompany the engraving are of a quality which must have brought the issue home to many a Tory selfishness, fixed in the perennial British idea that mankind existed solely for British exploitation:

> MAGNA Britania her Colonies REDUC'D: EXPLANATION: The above [picture] is a Prophetical Emblem of what wou'd be the Miserable State of Great Britain and her Colonies Shou'd She persist in restraining their Trade, destroying their Currency, and Taxing their People by Laws, made by a Legislature where they are not Represented. The Author, with a Sagacity and Invention natural to himself, has compriz'd in one View, under the character of Belisarius, the late Flourishing State of Great Britain, in the Zenith of Glory and Honour, with her Fall into the most abject State of Disgrace, Misery and Ruin.

Not far away lies open the manuscript of the famous "Watson's Annals," with notes innumerable, that are as good as a Pepys' Diary of Philadelphia—here a reproduction of the treasured painting which is in the Philadelphia Library proper, at 1323 Locust street, showing in panorama the infant city of 1720, and there an original water color by the unfortunate Major Andre.

It is a historical gem, that water color by Andre, which reposes so modestly within the manuscript pages of the famous annals. How sharply it brings to the sensibilities the whole romance and tragedy of that charming English spy, who from the hour when he was condemned to die, was more sincerely mourned by the patriots who executed him than by the British, who had forfeited his life in the most abhorrent treachery since the days of Judas.

"This," writes Watson, in his neat, close script, "is a drawing done by the unfortunate Major Andre. It was drawn to give the Ladies of the Meschianza-Knights an idea of how they should dress as the Ladies of the Knights of the Blended Rose. It was presented to me by Jane Craig, one of those belles."

The broadsides that are shown include many notices and proclamations by General Howe, and all of them harp on the expediency of submission by the rebels against his majesty's beneficent rule—incidentally observing that, if they don't, they will be treated with "the utmost rigour."

The whole anxious age rises in the mind's eye, down even to a most astonishing feature of the British campaign for undermining patriot sentiment, a remarkable forgery of a letter purporting to have been written by General Washington to his wife. The marginal note states that it is "Spurious—wrote in London by a Mr. Randolph, of Virginia"; but it is one of the most brilliantly executed literary forgeries ever conceived by lying humanity.

It is entitled "An intercepted original Letter from General Washington to his Lady, in the Year 1776." Addressed "To Mrs. Washington, etc., My dearest life

Broadcast at the time when the British hoped it would do most harm by instilling in the hearts of the patriots the hopelessness it purported to depict in the heart of their leader, it contains passages such as these:

> I have often told you, that as far as I have the controul of them, all our preparations of war aim only at peace. Neither do I, at this moment, see the least likelihood of there being any considerable military operations this season, and, if not this season, certainly in no other. It is impossible to suppose, that in the leisure and quiet of winter quarters, men will not have the virtue to listen to the dictates of plain common sense and sober reason.
>
> The only true interest of both sides is reconciliation. . . . . We must at least agree and be friends; for we cannot live without them, and they will not without us, and a bystander might well be puzzled to find out, why, as good terms cannot be given and taken now.
>
> For all these reasons, which cannot but be obvious to the English commissioners, and ours, as they are to me, I am at a loss to imagine how anything can arise to obstruct a negociation, and, of consequence, a pacification.

That forged letter to Mrs. Washington represented the highest level to which British skill rose in the endeavor to influence public sentiment; the proclamations, calling on the rebels to submit, asking for volunteers and laying down regulations of life in the city were merely threats of condign punishment or dire intimations under cover of friendly protestations.

There are, in the collection at the Ridgway, many remarkable cartoons dealing with other events in early American history, among them the famous picture of the first fist fight in Congress, between Colonel Matthew Lyon and Roger Griswold, on January 30, 1798, the verses that accompanied the ludicrous drawing having remained popular long afterward:

He in a trice struck Lyon thrice
  Upon his Head Enrag'd, Sir;
Who seized the tongs to right his wrongs
  And Griswold thus engag'd, Sir.

There is a cartoon that depicts "The Repeal of the Stamp Act" with all the animosity and all the personalities incident to the rasping satire of the times; but its sharpness is dull in comparison with the bitter scorn of the cartoon apropos of the Hartford convention, during the second war with England, when New England states were suspected of being weary of the profitless conflict and of planning to secede from the Union in order to cast their lot with their former tyrants.

Perhaps the most powerful piece of pictorial invective is that issued during the War of 1812, and picturing "War on the Frontiers as Practiced by the Humane British and their Worthy Allies."

"Bring me the scalps, and the king, our master, will reward you," says the British commander to the Indian, who hands him a bunch of the gory trophies and carries a gun marked: "Reward for 16 Scalps." Another Indian scalping an American soldier, while the victim's comrade-in-arms he right of the drawing.

---

l in procuring
the Library w
ge H. Calvert
assisted by th
ward King subscri
r. Wm. S. Wetmor
hese, with others
entlemen, were giv
n the community, th
ber of proprietors. M
Mr. Sidney Brooks ten
Mr. Wm. H. King. Mr.
Sears took each eig
gentlemen subscribed
others paid for one or t
were soon made to en
wood," and in July,
finished according to
architect; it was 50 feet
20 feet d by
octago lant
ing ye all w
Mr. M rk.
origi
valua this y
sente n of
ey Bro
Mr. rt an
books gave
impo Y. N ssach
have bo
report wledged
large d Lenox was
some r on of volumes
reprints relating
our co y. From the li
King received (in 18
includi a number of illus
volume of old and rare e
D'Wolf Rogers gave (as
Robert Rogers, of Br
of valuable books, and a spe
income to Henry T. Tucker
umes) were given by his siste
closed in a beautiful casket
the essays upon "Washin
raits," with twelve selected
on from Mr. Tuckerman's
ever, were also included i
dition of the Rosetta Stone
y Mrs. Wm. S. Wetmore, and
. Nichols Beach. Lord Ki
iquities of Mexico" in nine
olio), with 1,000 large colore
simile reprint of the rarest b
to Virginia (Thomas Hario
containing about thirty large
ings, were presented by M
Providence. Dr. Loubat's
"Medallion History of the
taining 170 exquisite etchin
Jacquemart, was the gift o
Mr. Wm. M. Rodman, form
dence, presented the "Victo
fully illustrated monograph
and Humphrey's illuminated
Ages, giving an account of
progress of the art of illu
branch of pictorial ornamen
to the seventeenth century
of examples of the s
selected from the m
cripts of the various
stone and printed in
Audubon's "Viviparous
illustrated with 150 plates
being of natural size), w
Wright. An interesting
Bonaparte, entitled "
Italica" (1841), handso
ceived from Mr. Charle
Harvard College book,
umes, very fully illus
than Matthews, and th
views of the interior an
and portraits of office
sented by Mr. George
the library is indebted
gifts. "The Cottages
dred copies handsome
years ago, and well il
Mr. George C. Mason,
Panon, a descendant
founder, and a previou
French works, recent
son's "American Orni

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRAR

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venera
Institution.

ates
Law
be
ed
A
of t
yeste
of H
of tha
The s
resent
famili
but la
Bristo
ton, T
ing b
The
most i
est in
in 180
when
Lanes'
of book
try sto
brary l
that a
Suprem
sheepsk
ble ink,
Shippen
and H
still car
brary's
EARLY
The
that am
men of
and not
high p
them be
sons, W
Craigs,
Hulmes
records
the libr
that su
count f
stance,
Novem
turned
grease
The
years,
expired,
greatly
tinued
at publi
loss to
a few
library
volumes,
promoto
charge
charter
subscrip
cured. T
Mary W
V. Willi
the asso
building
terest of
of books.
NOW
The libr
the pride
umes on
bers. Su
tenance,
agers dire
remains p
the other
Miss Lil
Amos Sa
and Rob
The sp
manor w
evening
from the
short add
of the li
port. On
Warwick,
Langhorn
his praise
appeals t
and Lan
the librar
A substan
fete.

BULLETIN—PHI

Men and Th

The "Dead Hand" Rules an
In the Case of the Millio
Ridgway Library, Littl
and Missing Its Opport

PHILADELPHIA'S larg
leum, the Ridgway Lib
lack of use has evoke
cism of A. Edward Newton
been a conspicuous example
pling influence of "the dead
nearly a half century the b
at Broad and Christian stre
tracted attention as an imp
ture. In its architectural
ness it has been one of the
of the
being
home
Philad
conside
interes
learnin
is of l
library
Visitors
it is we
brary co
which r
James R
ary patri
Rush, it is,
only a plac
books, thou
consult vo
the Library
take one ou

It was th
stimulate the
found a libr
congregate, a
for the safe
of the old lib
stated that if
which he was
take over the
opened as "a fr

But, except s
Library Compa
Ridgway Library
in the sense of
borrow a book for
er it can ev
as the will
ly circums

Dr. Rus
who spent
in seclusi
mansion o
became a
declared h
Library Co
stitution
company, h
certain con
at variance
brary admi
Ridgway
monument to
Phoebe Ann,
way, who are

Dr. Rush prohibited nearly
cies that tend toward popula
extending the use of a libr
tures or exhibits were not
far as this storehouse of
concerned. In his will he
"The said Library Company
cause, allow or permit any le
lic orations or oral address

A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or al
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculpt
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

---

tions of a
delivered
take p
lot of
said

yor
is a
arm in
and hig
s County
support of
ly received.
ized from the

A. DAVENPORT.

ER—PHILAD

e completed next
mas K. Finletter Sc
ompletion at Front

ently started a c
h a recreation ce
the chairmanship
y, 6138 North
e also making pla
ew high school wi
t as a present fro

he development o
ment this asocia
nterest in the wel
s. They have en-
nts to visit the
invited the teach-
meetings to en-
n between the

us a harmonica
eighty boys
which oc
at the meetings. Every
ciation escorts a group
ren to Washington and
sors a trip to see the
ball at Shibe Park.
ge thrift, the Big Four
possible for the chil-
venth and eighth grades
to start bank accounts.
ildren each month save
$600.
Reimel, 5608 North
is the founder and
the association, while
North 3d street, on
members, with
is pre

---

urday, Novem
P. M., at H
City of Phila
ated as the
esting event.
ber is Treasu
osed of the
Bar: J. B. Co
ake, Irving
Gest, H. S.
Mahoney

---

date, to as
our most r
ries, and s
ries in the
true that

---

rld
of
the

ra-
as
ns
se
ey

g-
ry
g-
s."
ex-
in-
ex-
als,
icil,
em-
lic-
in
in
uch
heir
rom
por-
for
ntel-
pose
can
ns of
ublic

ellow
y are
r the
Gov-
nds of
ed in-
rtifice
condi-
s and
h per-
library

phia in
ts, one
annoy-
rmount
w hos-
branch
rustees
r green
it that
ic that
lockley

cient
pro-
mes
ease
out
the
ng
n-
li-
le
d
"
lt

in Delmon-

cast will be included Mr. edloe, of Newport, and Miss Ingersoll, of New Haven, and Mr. Alexander Duncan, Mr. G. G. Howland, Mr. Twombley and Mr. Clarence Kipp, of this city, all of whom have won laurels on the amateur stage. On the same day in Newark Mr. Theodore Frelinghuysen, a son of ex-Senator Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, of Newark, will be married to Miss Sara Ballantine, in the presence of a large number of New York guests.

On Wednesday at St. Bartholomew's Church Mr. Greenfield will be married to Miss Doane, and Mr. Conklin to her sister. At 2 P. M. of the same day at the Cathedral Mr. Hugo Fritsch, the Austrian Vice Consul, well known on the "road" and at Newport, will marry Miss Minnie Gibert, a daughter of Mr. Fred Gibert, President of the New York Club.

On Wednesday evening also Mr. J. H. Copenhagen will marry Miss Louisa B. Embree, a daughter of Judge Embree, of Washington. Their guests will be received after the ceremony at Delmonico's. On the same evening Commodore and Mrs. Baldwin will give a farewell reception to General and Mrs. Cullum, who are to leave in a few days for a European trip, General Cullum being a delegate with Chief Justice Daly of the American Geographical Society to the Geographical Congress at Venice in September.

On Thursday will occur the wedding of Mr. Grenville Kane to Miss Margaret Adelaide Wolfe, a daughter of Mr. John Wolfe, of No. 713 Fifth avenue, and a niece of Miss Catharine L. Wolfe. It is announced that the best man will be Mr. Wm. E. Curtis, a son and namesake of the late Judge Curtis, and that the bridesmaids will be Miss Kate Bulkley, Miss May Bird, Miss Carrie Berryman, Miss Davison and Miss Hodges.

On Saturday next at the house of Mr. Pierre Lorillard his daughter will be married to Mr. William Kent, a great-grandson of the late Chancellor.

A story comes from England to the effect that Mr. William H. Vanderbilt is in treaty for the purchase from Mr. Coleman of his beautiful and historical place of Stoke Pogis, in Buckinghamshire, which adjoins the lovely village churchyard commonly regarded as the scene of Gray's immortal elegy. The place takes its name from one of the families which held it during the Middle Ages, but the mansion is of comparatively modern construction, though it goes back beyond the time of a possessor who made it in a manner American nearly two centuries ago. This was Richard Penn, a grandson of the founder of Pennsylvania. It continued in the Penn family until the present century, when it was purchased by the late Henry Labouchère, afterwards Lord Taunton, an uncle of the present editor of the London *Truth*. Lord Taunton died in 1869, but he sold Stoke Pogis six years before his death to Mr. Coleman, having no direct male heirs and not caring to leave it to his namesake, whom he cordially disliked. The mansion is both stately and comfortable, and the situation could hardly be bettered even in rich and rural England. The park is full of fine trees and beautiful glades. Windsor Castle is in full view from the windows of the house and the drives in the vicinity

he Dedication Next Sunday by C
McCloskey of the Church of St Leo.

The new Church of St. Leo, on Twenty-eig street, between Sixth and Madison avenues, w be dedicated next Sunday (May 1) by Cardi McCloskey. Bishop Conroy will sing the ma and Bishop Spalding, of Peoria, will preach the sermon. At vespers Archbishop Corrigan, coadjutor to the Cardinal, will officiate. The church cost, including the land, upwards of $100,000, nearly all of which, it is understood, has been paid up. The organization of the parish and the rapid completion of the church, begun less than a year ago, are entirely due to the energetic efforts of the Rev. Father Thomas J. Ducey, who was the protege of the late James T. Brady. The parish was created by the Cardinal in the spring of 1880, Father Ducey being appointed pastor. The first services were held in Treno Hall, on Broadway, near Thirty-second stree May 7, 1880. On Christmas Day of the same ye the first mass was celebrated in the basemen the new church in Twenty-eighth street, and so rapidly had the congregation increased in the interval of eight months that it was found necessary to celebrate six masses on that day. It is estimated that no less than 2,500 persons attend the different services on every Sunday. The church will contain 100 pews, of which 50 have been already secured. The building is of Belleville stone, 50 by 100. The nave is 53 feet high, clear. The chancel is finished in inlaid stone work, the nave in plain stone and the ceiling decorated after the Munich school. The pastor recently received from a lady of the congregation four sets of very handsome vestments as a personal gift, the cost of which is estimated at $5,000. The altar is a gift from a gentleman of the congregation. Bishop Conroy, who will celebrate mass next Sunday, officiated at the ordination of Father Ducey as deacon and sub-deacon, a Bishop Spalding, who will preach the serm was for several years pastor of St. Micha Church, on Eighth avenue, where Father Du was his assistant.

Sailing of the Mapleson Company.

Among the passengers for Liverpool by the man line steamer City of Berlin yesterday w most of the members of the Mapleson O Company. Signor Campanini, Mme. Gerster a Miss Cary, however, remained in the city. The crowd of persons who were on the pier to say good-by to friends was larger than it usually is on an April steamer day, and this was due not only to the fact that members of the opera company were among the passengers but also to the fine weather. The large number of visitors made the gangway officers more strict than customary in permitting persons to go on board the steamer to speak to their friends, and in consequence many farewells were given from the pier in many languages. During the slight delay which took place in shipping the mails beautiful bouquets were exchanged, being thrown across the space of water intervening between the pier and the steame Many of them unfortunately fell into the river. Parting presents were also delivered in the same way, which, being heavier, generally reached their destination. At 12.15, everything being ready, the whistle was blown to remove "gangways." Handkerchiefs were displayed, some tied on walking-sticks, and sunshades and hats were waved. Another signal being blown from the whistle and an order to "Let go everything!" coming from the officer of the deck, the steamer slowly drew out into the stream and started on her voyage.

Alderman Matthew J. Coggey Buried.

The funeral services over the remains of Alderman Matthew J. Coggey took place yesterday morning at the Church of the Holy Cross, in West Forty-second street. A solemn requiem mass was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Grannon, assisted by the church choir. After the services the body was taken to Calvary Cemetery for burial. Mayo Grace and the members of the Board of Aldermen were present at the church.

---

generous subs for fo ares (equal to $1,000), which he afterward presen ed to the compa llam C. Cozzens and Mr. were v active and suc- subscriptions

---

furniture (17 volume among of another scarce is a copy of Beaumont and Fletcher, "published by the authors' original copies, London, 1647, with portrait of Fletcher, by Marshall." "First collected edition, containing by ten comedians to Philip

FOR LANGHORNE'S LIBRAR

A Lawn Fete in Aid of the Venera

Institution.

ates
Law
be
ed
A
of t
yeste
of H
of th
The s
resent
famili
but la
Bristo
ton, T
ing b
The
most i
est in
in 1800
when
Lanes'
of book
try sto
brary h
that a
Suprem
sheepsk
ble ink,
Shippen
and H
still car
brary's
EARLY
The
that am
men of
and not
high p
them b
sons, W
Craigs,
Hulmes
records
the libr
that su
count f
stance,
Novem
turned
grease
The
years,
expired,
greatly
tinued
at publ
loss to t
a few
library
volumes
promoto
charge
charter
subscrip
cured. T
Mary W
V. Will
the asso
building
terest of
of books.
NOW
The lib
the pride
umes on
bers. Su
tenance,
agers dir
remains p
the other
Miss Li
Amos S
and Rob
The s
manor w
evening
from the
short ad
of the li
port. On
Warwick,
Langhorn
his praise
appeals t
and Lan
the librar
A substan
fete.

BULLETIN—PHI

Men and Th

The "Dead Hand" Rules ar In the Case of the Millio Ridgway Library, Littl and Missing Its Opport

PHILADELPHIA's larg
leum, the Ridgway Lib
lack of use has evoke
cism of A. Edward Newto
been a conspicuous example
pling influence of "the dead
nearly a half century the b
at Broad and Christian str
tracted attention as an imp
ture. In its architectural
ness it has been one of the
of the
being
home
Philad
conside
interes
learnin
is of l
library
Visitor
it is we
brary co
which
James R
ary patr
Rush, it is
only a plac
books, thou
consult vol
the Library
take one ou

It was th
stimulate the
found a libr
congregate, a
for the safe
of the old lib
stated that if
which he wa
take over the
opened as "a fre

But, except so
Library Compa
Ridgway Librar
in the sense of
borrow a book fo
er it can ever be
as the will
ly circums

Dr. Rus
who spent
in seclusi
mansion o
became a
declared h
Library C
stitution w
company, h
certain con
at variance
brary adm
Ridgway
monument t
Phoebe Ann,
way, who are

Dr. Rush prohibited near
cies that tend toward popu
extending the use of a li
tures or exhibits were no
far as this storehouse of
concerned. In his will
"The said Library Compan
cause, allow or permit any le
lic orations or oral address
tions of a
delivered
take p
lot o
said

A Solitude Without Distraction

they cause or all
mation of any
or collection
ary, sculpt
thereon or
apply o
from m
theret
exp

ER—PHILA

be completed next
nas K. Finletter Sc
ompletion at Front

cently started a c
h a recreation ce
the chairmanship
y, 6138 North
e also making pla
ew high school w
t as a present fr

he developmen
ment this as
interest in th
s. They hav
nts to visi
invited the
meetings
n between
us a harn
at the meetings
ciation escorts a
ren to Washingt
isors a trip to
ball at Shibe P
e thrift, the Bi
possible for th
enth and eighth
to start bank a
ildren each mon
$600.
Reimel, 5608
is the found
the association
North 3d str
members, w
is pre

yly received.
lized from the

A. DAVENPORT.

---

l in procuring the req[illegible] ed subscrip[illegible] the Library was much indebted to Mr. ge H. Calvert and Mr. George G. King assisted by their excellent counsel. Mr. Edward King subscribed for twenty shares and Mr. Wm. S. Wetmore for the same number. These, with others purchased by well-known gentlemen, were given to various individuals in the community, thereby increasing the number of proprietors. Mr. Lennox bought ten shares Mr. Sidney Brooks ten shares; Mr. Delancey Kane, Mr. Wm. H. King, Mr. B. Lawrence and Mr. David Sears took each eight shares, and about fifty gentlemen subscribed for four shares each. Many others paid for one or two shares. Arrangements were soon made to enlarge the borders of "Redwood," and in July, 1859, the new room was finished according to a plan of Mr. Snell, the architect; it was 50 feet long, 28 wide and about 20 feet high; lighted by six windows and by an octagonal dome or lantern light. In the following year this large hall was beautifully frescoed by Mr. Mohr, of New York. By the extension of the original wings additional room was afforded for books. The company expended nearly $4,000 for new books during this year. Soon afterwards a valuable collection of French books was presented by Mr. Sidney Brooks, eighty-one volumes illustrative of art and military life, and Mr. David Sears gave a number of historical books—valuable Massachusetts records. Many important gifts of books or works of art have been acknowledged in almost every yearly report. Mr. Lenox was well represented by a large donation of volumes by the best authors and some rare reprints relating to the early history of our country. From the library of Mr. Charles B. King were received (in 1862) nearly 400 volumes, including a number of illustrated works and many volumes of old and rare engravings. Mrs. Maria D'Wolf Rogers gave (as a memorial of Mr. Robert Rogers, of Bristol) $3,000 worth of valuable books, and a special fund of $1,000, the income to be used for the purchase of books. The works of Henry T. Tuckerman (thirty-five volumes) were given by his sister, lately deceased, inclosed in a beautiful casket of ebony and cedar. The essays upon "Washington's Life and Portraits," with twelve selected portraits of Washington from Mr. Tuckerman's collection of sixty-seven, were also included in the gift. The first edition of the Rosetta Stone book was presented by Mrs. Wm. S. Wetmore, and the later one by Mr. . Nichols Beach. Lord Kingsborough's "Antiquities of Mexico" in nine volumes (imperial folio), with 1,000 large colored plates, and a facsimile reprint of the rarest book known relating to Virginia (Thomas Hariot's, Frankfort, 1590.) containing about thirty large and curious engravings, were presented by Mr. Joseph J. Cooke, of Providence. Dr. Loubat's superb work, the "Medallion History of the United States," containing 170 exquisite etchings by the late Jules Jacquemart, was the gift of Mr. David King, jr. Mr. Wm. M. Rodman, formerly Mayor of Providence, presented the "Victoria Regia," a beautifully illustrated monograph, by Mr. J. F. Allen, and Humphrey's Illuminated Books of the Middle Ages, giving an account of the development and progress of the art of illumination as a distinct branch of pictorial ornamentation from the fourth to the seventeenth century, illustrated by a series of examples of the size of the originals selected from the most beautiful manuscripts of the various periods, executed on stone and printed in colors by Owen Jones. Audubon's "Viviparous Quadrupeds," elegantly illustrated with 150 plates (most of the illustrations being of natural size), was given by Mr. H. Allen Wright. An interesting work by Carlo L. Principe Bonaparte, entitled "Iconograpia Della Fauna Italica" (1841), handsomely illustrated, was received from Mr. Charles Lyman, of Boston. The Harvard College book, a superb quarto in two volumes, very fully illustrated, came from Mr. Nathan Matthews, and the Yale College with many views of the interior and exterior of the buildings, and portraits of officers past and present, was presented by Mr. George Peabody Wetmore, to whom the library is indebted for various other important gifts. "The Cottages of Newport," one of a hundred copies handsomely gotten up two or three years ago, and well illustrated, was presented by Mr. George C. Mason, its author. Madam Marius Panon, a descendant of Abraham Redwood, the founder, and a previous donor of many valuable French works, recently presented a copy of Wilson's "American Ornithology, or the Natural His-

plays dedicat[illegible] Earl of Pembroke and Montgom[illegible] tion, edited by John Shirley, a[illegible] thirty-six [illegible] printed for the first time."

A copy of the works of that famous poet[illegible] Edmund Spenser, issued at London in 1609, [illegible] one of singular contrast with that of a modern copy, and the quaint illustrations for the "Shepheard's Calendar" are interesting features of this early edition of Spenser.

The "Bibliotheca Americanæ Primordia," published at London in 1713, is a scarce work nowadays, and much valued by certain antiquarians. And John Sevin's "Complete History of the Several Translations of the Holy Bible and New Testament into English" (London, 1739) is not surpassed by any work of its kind at the present day. A copy of the "Tapestry Hangings of the House of Lords," representing the several engagements between the English and Spanish fleets in 1588, is one of the esteemed old relics. The work is illustrated by engravings executed by John Pine of London. It has been reproduced within three years by the heliotype process in Boston. A large collection of the "Royal Society Transactions" are in the library, a perfect set of the "Parliamentary Debates," and of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and also the Newport *Mercury* from 1795 to the present date, with some imperfect volumes of earlier years. The *Revue des deux Mondes* from 1838 to this time may also be found on the library shelves.

The reading-room and art gallery are combined in a commodious and well-lighted hall; this is the new structure, or third addition to the library, finished in 1876. It is thirty-six feet wide by forty-eight feet long and thirty feet high. The shelf-room here for books is very considerable and may be increased by additional book-cases when required. The library contains at present 23,490 volumes. A rather limited number of books is in circulation, if compared with that of a free library, but the Redwood is more especially a place of reference and is much more frequented by scholars who avail themselves of its well furnished departments of American, British, French, German and Italian biography, and, of the same nations, the pretty full departments of history, exploration and observation. The genealogical records also appear to be much in request. Many of the folios published a hundred and more years ago upon historical, theological and philosophical subjects, with many others of value for reference, are here consulted by readers who in general give little time to what is styled popular literature. The various periodicals of the day—books of biography, history and novels in great variety—are taken out by members in excess of all other works. The reading-room is well supplied with the leading American magazines and quarterlies and some foreign publications of note—the newspapers of the day, &c. The art gallery has many visitors during the summer season, when it is next to impossible to number those who come and go, and perhaps no literary institution in the Eastern States attracts a more constant stream of visitors during five months of the year than does the Redwood Library. Among the famed curiosities is a fragment of the great iron chain made by Peter Townsend in 1778, that was stretched across the Hudson River near West Point to obstruct the passage of British vessels. This weighty relic of Revolutionary times is deposited near the front of the library edifice. The three links to be seen here weigh at least 420 pounds. The whole chain is said to have weighed 180 tons. Any one familiar with our national history may recall that the traitor Arnold, previous to the discovery of his treason, wrote to Andre informing him that he had weakened the obstructions in the river by ordering a link in this chain to be taken out and carried to the smith under a pretense that it needed repairs.

There is in the directors' room of the library a quaint old arm-chair of English oak that belonged to Governor Benedict Arnold (great-grandfather of the above-mentioned degenerate Benedict), who was a President under the first patent to Rhode Island and the first Governor under the Royal charter. Governor Arnold used it as his chair of state, and it has been said that he was seated in it when he received the charter granted by Charles II. in 1663. The chair is remarkably well preserved, having lost but a small part of its oaken back.

The skull of an Indian warrior may be seen in

---

date, to a
our most
ries, and s
ries in the
true that

---

rld
of
the
va-
as
ms
ose
ey
ig-
ary
og-
is."
ex-
in-
ex-
als.
cil,
em-
lic-
in
in
uch
heir
rom
por-
for
ntel-
rpose
can
ns of
ublic
'ellow
y are
r the
Gov-
nds of
ed in-
rtifice
condi-
s and
h per-
library
phia in
its, one
annoy-
rmount
w hos-
branch
rustees
r green
it that
lockley
ncient
pro-
umes
ease
out
the

brary, and
generous subsc[illegible] for for[illegible]ares (equal to
$1,000), which he afterwards presented to
the company. M[illegible] lliam C. Cozzens and Mr.
were very active and suc-
[illegible] subscriptions

[illegible] furniture (17[illegible] st t
volume among [illegible] of [illegible]
another scarce [illegible] is a copy of Beaumont and
Fletcher, "published by the authors' original
copies, London, 1647, with portrait of Fletcher, by
Marshall." "First collected edition, containing
[illegible] dedicated by ten comedians to Philip

Burton A. Kc nkle Calls Attention to the Ridgway Library.

The following letter will be of interest to many University members and alumni. It concerns the value and importance of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library. The letter was received from the founder, and former curator, of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Museum, in the Law School Building, of the University:

"Editor of OLD PENN:

"I have had for many years a great admiration for the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, and I know that its collection is most widely appreciated among the most scholarly men in our city. I have wondered, therefore, why I had never seen any public expression of this appreciation, in the face of not infrequent press references to it in a critical tone. Of course, I am peculiarly interested in it as an historical treasure. Think what it means for a quasi-public library of the ancient, or early metropolis and capital of America, with all the culture that that implies, being a choice contemporary collection of the best books every year practically for one hundred and seventy-five years. Why there's nothing equal to it in America in this one respect alone. Indeed, in a certain sense, an even longer period is covered, for books were added to it that had become famous in the generation previous to 1731 when they began to buy. For instance, a few days ago Thomas' little book on Pennsylvania, issued about thirty-three years before that, was sold by Henkels for above $800. This old library had four copies of it, and still has two. A few years ago I found a letter from a Philadelphia judge to a Scotch physician near Aberdeen. The judge was a member of this old library at that date, 1?04, and drew the attention of the physician to an incident related in a copy of Boswell's 'Johnson', which he had just glanced over in the library. The incident was about an unnamed physician, and the judge wanted to know if it was his correspondent, and it proved so to be. That very volume which the judge used is there now—not a later

REVIEW.

REVIEW.

ITORI grad- ceiv-

edition, nor a recent reprint, which might not include the addenda which the first edition had. Have you ever looked at a geography of the United States, say in 1827—or a geography of the world for that matter? You can find it there, and it will be a revelation to you, if you have never tried it. These illustrations suggest the possibilities in our use of this great collection, a collection by the way, which scholars cross the ocean to consult, and not infrequently either. Curiously enough, the quest of some of these visitors from abroad is its superb collection of ancient classics. This latter was the finest one in America, in Franklin's youth, and is one of the rare ones of the world now.

"The University would do a great public service if it could get a man like Dr. Mitchell to lecture on the great treasures of Philadelphia, for this library is only, in some respects, the chief among many.

"Sincerely.

"(Signed) BURTON ALVA KONKLE."

In the Century Magazine for May, 1883, is a very interesting article on this old institution by its present librarian, Mr. Samuel, which should be read by any one who is interested in this subject

---

The Historical Exhibition to be Opened at the Ridgway Library

"NO PERSON living in the city of Philadelphia and its environs shall appear in the streets after 8.30 P. M. without lanterns. And all who shall be found after the time aforesaid will be liable to be examined and confined, unless they shall give satisfactory account of themselves."

Can any Philadelphian realize how it would feel, in the early evenings of this January, to confront such a proclamation, posted on the City Hall, the telegraph poles and the lampposts that survive?

With some slight modernizing, it is in substance the stern order which, during the British occupation of the town in the course of the Revolution, was posted under the authority of Sir William Howe.

Only a little imagination will be needed, after tomorrow, to live over again the anxious lives of our forefathers, if we will visit the Ridgway Branch of the Library Company of Philadelphia, and examine the remarkable first exhibition of its treasures of Americana. The most intimate details of the Colonial and Revolutionary life of the city, told in cartoons and pictures, in manuscripts and broadsides, in pamphlets and rare books, will be outspread for the benefit of the public.

It is probably the most important collection of Americana that has ever been made free for inspection by the people at large.

They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.—Benjamin Franklin.

THAT sentence of profound philosophy, which appeared in Franklin's "Historical Review of Pennsylvania," might well serve as the keynote of this amazing first taste of the riches of material existing in the Ridgway Branch, all of which will ultimately be shown to the public; for the exhibition is to be permanent, although the exhibits themselves will be changed from time to time.

It was the keynote of the entire epoch that led up to the Revolution; it appeared as early as November, 1755, in an answer by the Assembly of Pennsylvania to the Governor; and it was the motto which Franklin, in 1759, adopted for his "Historical Review."

And, impressively enough, as appears from the whole trend of the British utterances during the two years of Sir William Howe's occupation of this city, it was the principle on which both the patriots persisted in their rebellion and their oppressors insisted on their surrender.

But it was so far from flattering when it came from the mouths and hands of the British that its only effect was to drive home more deeply into the minds of the patriots who were in the field the lesson of the Revolution's need.

OBEDIENCE EXACTED

The literal text of the broadside referred to as being typical of the exhibition will serve as an example of the terms in which those earlier Philadelphians were addressed by their temporary conquerors and masters:

By ORDER of His Excellency SIR WILLIAM HOWE, K. B., General and Commander in Chief, &c., &c., &c.,

PROCLAMATION.

I do hereby give Notice to the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia and its Environs, it is the Order of His Excellency, that "No Person whatever, living within the said "City and its Environs, shall appear in the Streets between "the Beating of the Tattoo, at Half an Hour after Eight "o'Clock in the Evening, and the Revellie in the Morning, "without Lanthorns: And all who shall be found abroad, "within the Time aforesaid, will be liable to be examined by "the Patroles, and confined, unless they shall give a satis-"factory Account of themselves." And I do hereby enjoin and require the Inhabitants, and all others residing in the said City and its Environs, to pay strict Obedience to the said Order, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand at Philadelphia, this 9th day of January, in the Eighteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

JOS. GALLOWAY,
Superintendent-General.

The beautiful fiction, beautifully dispelled when the descendants of the colonial families here have reproduced the fete of the Meschianza, that all Americans of that older day were immitigably aflame with the pure fire of patriotism, gives place to the truths of real life as it was then lived, in all its infinite detail, in the light of these priceless historical documents which the public may now examine in all the obsoleteness of their phrasing.

Two classes are likely to improve the exceptional opportunity. One is composed of those before whose minds the epochal events of the Revolution pass as do the scenes of a historical play, conveying only the impressions of picturesque pageantry, with perhaps a pleasant thrill of pride that these deeds [illegible] done by men of their stock, and [illegible] been [illegible] forever and forever.

THE REDWOOD LIBRARY.

The Treasures of Newport's Century-and-a-Half-Old Institution.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE WORLD.]

NEWPORT, April 22.—In the original edifice or hall of the Redwood Library and Athenæum, and near its front entrance, one may see the following [illegible]:

(First)
This Institution
originated A. D. 1730.
Founded by
ABRAHAM REDWOOD
and incorporated
A. D. 1747.
This Lot
the Gift of
HENRY COLLINS,
A. D. 1748.

(Second)
This edifice
erected
A. D. 1748–50.
PETER HARRISON,
Architect.
Enlarged
A. D. 1858.
Architect,
GEORGE SNELL.

Here a visitor is reminded of the library's earliest days, in colonial times, its pleasant growth and the fostering care which attended its interests through successive generations down to the present day. He may also think of the cultured minds who were at the first identified with this institution, when a collection of good books, *pro bono publico*, was no slight undertaking. The [illegible] had a varied experience in its long [illegible] sunny days of prosperity have not been unbroken and its crises of adversity have occasionally challenged the efforts of its best friends to a cordial assistance. In the librarian's room hangs the charter of the library, [illegible] and adopted in 1747, signed by Governor Wanton and sealed with the seal of the colony, a [illegible] old relic and perpetual souvenir of the re[illegible]able commencement of a now venerable and very widely known institution. As 1730 has been [illegible] for the date of its origin, it should be re[illegible] that the earliest members of Redwood [illegible]y had at this time formed an association for [illegible]rary purposes under the auspices of Bishop [illegible]rkeley, whose residence was in Newport from [illegible]9 to 1731. Gradually this association came to [illegible] plan of forming a library company, which [illegible]ally received its practical impulse from the gift of Abraham Redwood—recorded as £500—for the purchase of standard works in London. [illegible] building site was then presented by Mr. Collins [illegible] almost immediately £5,000 were subscribed [illegible]00 gentlemen in Newport for the erection of a [illegible] library edifice. When completed the building was justly admired for its beauty, and its Doric order of architecture has not ceased to be beautiful in the estimation of people belonging to [illegible] materially neither has the original style been [illegible]tions. altered by the subsequent necessary

[illegible] interesting to glance over the library rec[illegible] which cover 130 years), to observe how long a list might be made of its esteemed benefactors, and to note the changes that have occurred, affecting its interests seriously at times. Abraham Redwood, whose thoughtful generosity accomplished so much in laying the practical foundation of this library, also had the happiness of devoting nearly forty years of his life to its welfare, and of seeing it prosperous (in 1788 his death occurred), if we except the time when it was disturbed by the Revolution, and while the town was [illegible]ied successively by the English, the American and the French forces. From about 1795 to 1810 the affairs of "Redwood" were suffering considerably from neglect, and there was even some danger of the library being broken up and its property being divided among a few proprietors. It was saved, however, from this calamity by the zeal and public spirit of the principal men in Newport. In 1810 its charter was amended, sixty-four new members were received and the library was enabled to purchase valuable additions to its stock of books so as to fully meet the literary wants of the community. The library was then opened only on Saturday afternoons, but in June, 1811, until July, 1812, it was opened on Wednesday from 4 to 6 o'clock P. M., as well as Saturdays. Afterwards a regulation was adopted (which continued in force until 1859) allowing members to get their books on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons from May to November, and during the other part of the year on Tuesdays and Saturdays. With our more modern ideas of library privileges this appears as a rather scant allowance of mental aliment, but it should be remembered that in those days there was not such an endless supply of new books to be distributed or looked for, and the population of Newport was comparatively small. It was also necessary to limit the current expenses of the library and the salaries of assistants were by no means large enough to enable them to devote their time exclusively to it. The Centennial anniversary of the incorporation of the Redwood Library Company was duly celebrated August 24, 1847, when Mr. William Hunter delivered an eloquent discourse and the Rev. Charles T. Brooks read an appropriate poem. The welfare of the library required at this period a renewal of public interest, but it was not until 1856 that a successful attempt was made to improve its resources and to enlarge the original edifice. A circular was issued by a committee appointed by the directors stating the condition of the institution and its claims upon the hearts and purses of Newport people, which resulted in subscriptions to the amount of $16,000 and happily placed the library on an equality with similar institutions.

It is hardly possible to justly mete out the honors of a liberal assistance tendered by many prominent men whose aid was so valuable in the resuscitation of affairs at this second crisis in the history of "Redwood." Mr. Charles H. Russell, a native of Newport and a successful merchant of New York, should be mentioned for his earnest efforts in behalf of the library, and his generous subscription for forty shares (equal to $1,000), which [illegible] afterwards presented to the comp[illegible] [illegible]liam C. Cozzens and Mr. [illegible] were v[illegible] active and suc[illegible] subscriptions

tory of the United States." The "Second Geological Survey of the State of Pennsylvania" (with maps), in thirty-five quarto volumes, was generously given by Mr. Horatio Gates Jones, of Philadelphia. Rev. Charles T. Brooks, who has devoted much time to lectures given for the benefit of the library, presented among many other books one which if not rare is certainly very curious, entitled "The Botanic Garden"—a poem in two parts—containing "The Economy of Vegetation" and "The Loves of the Plants," with philosophical notes by Erasmus Darwin, M. D., published in 1795. The notes are very long and form the greater part of the work. Under the head of "Enamels" and the quotation

> Smeared her huge dragons with metallic hues,
> With golden purples and cobaltic blues,

there are interesting ideas, and in the note following are discussed "the fine forms of Portland's mystic urn." The figures and their emblems are spoken of at length, and four beautiful plates represent the celebrated vase in its form and ornamentation.

Among other works of interest presented by Dr. King (a former president of the library and its life-long friend) there is the "Les Restes de Rome," by Overbeke, in three volumes (folio), printed at Amsterdam in 1709. This work is esteemed for the exactness of its designs and its plates number 150. The Smithsonian Institution has given all of its publications, from the beginning—and members of Congress have also been generous donors of Congressional documents, volumes of the *Congressional Globe* and *Congressional Record*, with all the volumes of the "Pacific Railroad Survey" and the "Geological Survey;" "Astronomical Observations from the [illegible] Observatory," reports of the Educational Department at Washington, Patent-Office reports from the first to this date and many others. Mr. Robert Johnston, who died many years ago, had through personal solicitation procured for the Library some valuable works, and previous to the catalogue of 1843 (carefully arranged by Dr. King) succeeded in obtaining eighty-four volumes of the "Public Records of England" (as far as then published) from the British Government. And here it may be remarked that Dr. King, on a recent visit to London, applied to the Commissioner of the Public Records, in behalf of the Redwood Library, for a continuance of the "Records" since 1834, but received for answer that the commission did not distribute these publications to any library which had not aided them by the loan of manuscripts. This is much to be regretted, especially as Bishop Berkeley had strongly encouraged the formation of this very institution during his sojourn in Newport. A remembrance of the Bishop, it would seem, would have suggested a more generous response from our British cousin, above mentioned, but then we must believe that the memory of Bishop Berkeley in England survives only in his metaphysical speculations, and the acuteness and depth of his fine original intellect are known only to a charmed circle of scholars of the very highest culture. Among the old Bibles of the library is a rare and very interesting copy of the "Biblia Sacra Polyglotta," in Hebrew, Chaldaic, Greek and Latin, published, 1669–72, at Antwerp, in eight folio volumes, and containing many plates. This Bible was offered for sale in 1774 for $21.50, which amount was raised, as appears from a little inscription on a fly-leaf dated January 5, 1774, by twelve gentlemen whose names are given. "The books received and deposited in Redwood Library," is written at the bottom of the page and signed by the Rev. Ezra Stiles, who was the first librarian at Redwood and afterwards President of Yale College. Other Bibles of interest are the "Biblia Hebraica Montana," folio, 1684; the "Biblia Latina," 1487 (gift of John Brett); Herry's Bible, London, 1608, and the Bishop's Bible of 1572, the last mentioned being an extremely scarce copy, but unfortunately without a few of its first pages and also the latter part of the New Testament. The lack of its title-page is, however, compensated for by the insertion (in various parts of the Bible) of those devices and signs which abound in early specimens of typography, and which sufficiently characterize the various editions that first came from the press. The different bishops are represented by their initials being appended to the parts they translated. Archbishop Matthew Parker (Primate of England at this time) examined and finished the work, [illegible]pending his money for the printing, engraving and binding and multiplication of copies to instruct alike the illiterate and the wise. And to this great monument of the Bishop's goodness, learning and taste innumerable readers were for years indebted. As if anticipating the effects of time, or being duly impressed with the truth of his armorial bearings, *mundus transit*, the Archbishop has by various devices supplied that information which the title-page and preface would here have furnished. The identity of the edition is preserved by the initial letter of the preface "into the Newe Testament," which is inserted upon his own shield, bearing the arms he had by inheritance from his father. On the garter which surrounds the shield are inserted "M" upon one side and "P" upon the other, for Matthew Parker. At the bottom of the arms outside the garter stands divided the figures for the year, "1572," in which the important work was produced, and under the foot of the great "T" is a curious interlacing of ciphers, which by the few additional strokes connecting with the letter "M," distinctly conveys the christian and surname of the archbishop. The title page to the New Testament is a highly ornamented emblematical engraving (wood) adorned with figures of Faith and Charity—the royal arms of Elizabeth ingeniously supplying the place of Hope. At the lower part of the page is a tablet, with the supporters of the Tudor arms on each side, containing a verse from Romans. The prologue of Saint Basil the great, prefixed to the Psalms, adds to the interest, and there are numerous fanciful designs throughout this celebrated early edition of the Scriptures, associated with Biblical and mythological subjects that are worth seeing and studying.

An old ecclesiastical law book by Franciscus Zabarelli (folio), remarkable for its clear black-letter and excellent state of preservation, was printed in 1487. Upon a fly-leaf we have in the donor's language the following expression of the value of the work at this distance of time. "This book is only valuable as a curiosity, being perhaps one of the very earliest editions printed in Italy and containing the traditions of that day, that the copyists made such strong opposition to the new art of printing that the printers were obliged to divide the business by giving the ornaments and capital letters to them to execute." The paper is wonderfully white and almost like new in its excellent state of preservation. Chippendale's work on furniture (1740), with plates, is a valuable folio volume among rare editions of old works, and another scarce folio is a copy of Beaumont and Fletcher, "published by the authors' original copies, London, 1647, with portrait of Fletcher, by Marshall." "First collected edition, containing [illegible] by ten comedians to Philip

the same room in a glass case, with some Indian beads, and the warrior's copper basin which was found placed firmly upon the head and hair. But the collection of Indian chiefs transferred to canvas and hung in the directors' room is somewhat more interesting to visitors in general. These represent a number of picturesquely decorated chiefs of different tribes, who visited Washington, D. C., between the years of 1820 and 1860. The [illegible] were included in Mr. C. B. King's donation of 1864. A very valuable model (in cork) of the Roman colosseum was presented several years since by Mr. W. C. Gibbs (administrator of the estate of Miss Sarah Gibbs), also a handsome model of the Arch of Constantine and fragments of two Roman temples. In the same year the library received from Mrs. Martha Littlefield a [illegible] and interesting collection of shells—scientifically arranged, and comprising both native and foreign specimens—all of them displayed in a suitable case, also the gift of Mrs. Littlefield. The collection is an appropriate one for Newport "[illegible] the silver sea," and very interesting to the conchologist and others.

An "Egg Service," consisting of a small tray, six egg-cups, spoon and salt-cup, all made from a part of the "Old Elm Tree" of Boston Common (prostrated in 1860), is an interesting relic presented not long since by Mrs. Pastora Humphreys, a Boston lady.

A series of medals of the Popes of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries—one of them in gold and the others in bronze, beautifully executed—was the gift of the Rev. William N. Mercer.

The greater part of the oil pictures exhibited in the Art Gallery were presented by Mr. Charles B. King; the collection of two hundred paintings includes many portraits of former presidents, statesmen, naval officers and distinguished men. The pleasant face and form of William Coddington, first Governor of the colony of Rhode Island, is to be seen among the number given by Mr. King. Stuart, Allston, Sully, Chester Harding and G. P. A. Healy are represented upon the walls; the portrait Stuart painted of himself when a very young man has been one of the library possessions for many years. There are two noticeably good old pictures by an unknown hand; portraitures of Governor Wanton and lady. Miss Jane Stuart is represented in the portrait of the Rev. Mr. Callender which was presented by her. Miss Stuart has also donated two folio volumes upon art topics, once the property of her distinguished father, Gilbert Stuart. Mr. John Purssord, of London, presented the portrait of Abraham Redwood (grandson of the founder), painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence. To Mr. Edward King the library is indebted for several very handsome pieces of statuary, six of them copies in marble from the antique, by Paul Akers (an American sculptor whose early death was much lamented). "The Dying Gladiator" is the most valuable of these marbles, and cost the donor $10,000. A beautiful original work is the "American Schoolboy," by James Mozier. Busts in plaster of Franklin, Washington, Hamilton, Webster and many other worthies adorn [illegible] front and middle rooms of the library.

At the annual meeting of the directors in 1879 it was voted that "all persons who have in the past, or who may hereafter pay into the treasury the sum of $100 for the benefit of the library, shall become and enjoy the privileges of life members." There is therefore a pleasant list of such members numbering perhaps seventy, to which it is hoped many more will be added within another year. The creation of a "general fund" for current expenses has been commenced—and measures are being adopted to make this fund all that is desired and needed—which with the "special share" fund at present amounts to about [illegible],000. There has been for a long time a small fund for the purchase of books, which under the conditions mentioned by the donors could be devoted only to this purpose, and it has been faithfully used as directed. A large proportion of the book fund is appropriated to the purchase of scientific, historical, biographical works and books of travel. As was announced at the last annual meeting (September, 1880) the library company's indebtedness incurred by the 1876 enlargement of the building has been cancelled. Only three years ago this debt was $6,[illegible]00 (the cost of the structure being originally $31,000). Generous subscriptions were obtained in 18[illegible] towards this object, and upon the list are [illegible] names familiar in social and financial [illegible]—residents of Newport and others who are [illegible]ly there for a few weeks or months.

The money donations from numerous friends of the library have [illegible] noticeably liberal for many

THE RECORD.
Nos. 917 and 919 CHESTNUT STREET.
RECORD PUBLISHING COMPANY
WILLIAM M. SINGERLY,
PRESIDENT.
PUBLISHED EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR.
Philadelphia, July 15, 1894.

MANY BOOKS–NO READERS

The Ridgway Library and Its Forgotten Treasures.

ONLY 25 VISITORS A DAY

A Splendid Opportunity Lost Through a Mistake in Location and Foolish Regulations as to Books.

Not for years has there been so much said about the beautiful and imposing Ridgway Library as since the recent somewhat indiscreet remarks of an uptown city official, who, at a public gathering, spoke rather slightingly of the library as being located "at the lower end of Broad street, where its architectural splendor could not be appreciated." That provoked a storm of indignation from downtown residents, but they, alas! while stoutly approving the location of the library, have not shown sufficient interest in it to darken its doors or to become readers of its priceless literary treasures.

Nowhere in the world, probably, is there such an instance of a noble library lying largely unappreciated and forsaken because of an injudicious location and foolish restrictions regarding the class of books to be placed on its shelves. The average daily number of visitors during the past year was only 25, and on Sundays 60.

The great dearth of readers in an institution regarded by men and women of letters and possessing one of the most inviting interiors and best-equipped libraries to be found anywhere in this country is very largely due to the fact that works of current fiction are altogether excluded. Those who go there to read are mostly seekers after knowledge of a substantial kind, not so readily or voluminously afforded elsewhere.

Just now, and for some time past, the selection of reading matter indicates a prevailing interest in the American Colonies and Revolutionary epochs—a department of history in which the Ridgway is not surpassed. Here, besides innumerable books, pamphlets and bound manuscripts relating to the periods, may be found an almost unbroken file of newspapers dating from 1728. These are frequently consulted. The first volume of the Pennsylvania Gazette, Franklin's newspaper, for that year, is preserved here, as well as copies of Bradford's American Mercury—the first newspaper (1719) printed in the colonies.

Researches that require inspection of State atlases, or investigation of the United States geological surveys, of which there is a complete set, bring visitors here from various sections of the Union. In two other departments the library is unique. One is what may be termed Anti-Methodistical literature, and the other is the literature relating to the game of chess, of which there are over 400 volumes. Seldom, however, are any of these volumes called for. Scholars versed in the ancient classics frequently consult the rare and superb editions preserved here.

Those interested in the general subject of bibliography, and they include many of the visitors not regular readers, find here, carefully encased, copies of some of the earliest printed books, many illuminated manuscripts and masterpieces of typographic art—including examples of Faust, Schaeffer, Caxton and Wynkyn de Woode. The oldest Latin book is "Preparatio Evangelica," by Eusebius, printed in 1470. There is also a copy of the Bible printed in Rome in 1471. "The Golden Legend," printed by Caxton in 1486, is the oldest volume printed in English. Of American books one of the earliest and rarest is a copy of Eliot's Indian Bible.

Many of the visitors are evidently more interested in the spacious and magnificent library building itself than in any of the 110,000 volumes now on the shelves. But that which chiefly attracts readers to the Ridgway is its incomparable value as a library of reference on all subjects of special interest pertaining either to history, science, biography or belles lettres. It is closed to visitors only during the month of August of each year.

The splendid Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, which cost $680,000 and holds 110,000 volumes upon its shelves, is entertaining only twenty-five readers a day. Quite an expensive reading club house, truly! The unpopularity of the Ridgway Library has customarily been attributed to its non-central situation; but the statistics of a still more remote library branch disprove this. The Ridgway librarian claims to have discovered the defect in the absence of fiction and current literature from its shelves. Such a fault should find an easy and an instant remedy. Philadelphia has too few libraries to sacrifice such a fine temple for books as the Ridgway. It should no longer be permitted to remain an almost deserted storehouse of heavy and antiquated learning.

Penna. Gazette. April 21. 1737 advertisement of annual meeting of Phila. Liby.
Browne's Federal Gazette. April 17 — " " "

---

about Logan & Loganian Library. in Du Simitière mss. (1413. Q. Ph. 10, 11)

Praise of Phila. Liby. in Edwd. D. Neill, "The Ideal vs. the Real Franklin" p. 99.

---

acknowledgment of B. Samuel's services in Paul L. Ford's writings of J. Dickinson; also in Franklin bibliography of same, in Dr. Leffmann's hist. of Gazette, in Macaulay's hieroglyphical dictn in John H. Hazelton, Declaration of Independence —

John Davies, Personal adventures. L. (1816?) p. 10. has notice of P. L.

Ambrose Searle, Letter to Earl of Dartmouth 178-, (in Stevens' Facsimile MSS.) refers to R. L

"In one of the wings (of the State-House) ... is deposited a valuable collection of books belonging to a number of the citizens, who are incorporated by the name of The Library Co. of Phila. ... You would be astonished, my Lord, at the general taste for books, which prevails among all orders and ranks of people in this city — The Librarian assured me, that for one person of distinction and fortune, there were twenty tradesmen that frequented this Library.

Observations on a variety of subjects
" " by a gentleman resident some time in
Phila. Phila. 1774 (Cosmopolitan Letters?)
(6 [illegible] 24. D.) p. 11.

was arrested and lodged in Ber- Jail, charged with abducting Zulu Princess. He denied the was admitted to bail pending elopments.

The police of this city were notified and a neral alarm sent out for the arrest of the naway. This morning while Detective cCarthy, of the Prince street police station, as walking through Thompson street, near Bleecker, he noticed a young colored girl, wearing a black cloak, a gray dress and crescent-shaped gold earrings, and in other respects answering the description of the missing princess. The detective crossed the treet to take her into custody, but the young irl saw him and endeavored to make her scape. She gave him a lively run down the eeet, but he finally caught her in a hallway, where she had taken refuge. She rong denied her identity at first, but at e police station admitted that she was ara.

She was taken to Jefferson Market Police ourt and was turned over to the custody of gent Schultie, of Mr. Gerry's society, by hom her story will be investigated. Mrs. ance was sent for and she fully identified e girl as the missing Zara.

NEARLY CAUGHT BY CROOKS.

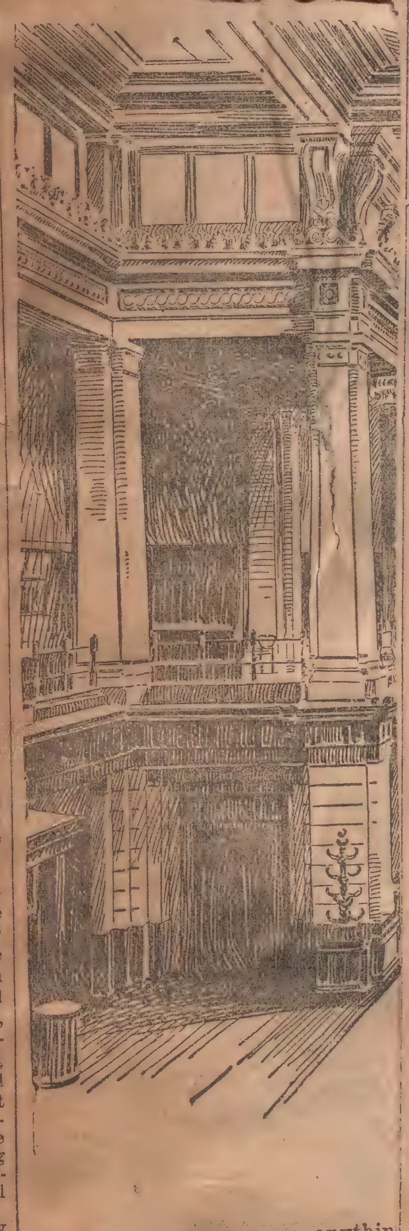
Farmer Who Wanted to Convince Sharpers of His Wealth.

al Telegram to THE TIMES.

UNIONTOWN, December 12.

bold and almost successful confidence s frustrated here to-day. Two stran- e to the residence of James Long, farmer, living in Franklin town- and apparently took a fancy to his his company they started out to the property. In a quiet retired ame across an affable stranger, lar three-card monte game en- men with Long were well money and won and lost con- dts.

eager to secure some of hand. He won $5,000 and



far as statistics can prove anythin Philadelphians are either ignorant or that we have already a magnificent of over 162,000 volumes, housed other library on the continent housed, collected into a building did architectural pretensions, set in occupying an entire city square, pr if not in terms of strict definit covering all branches of learning cient and modern, in fact, one of reference and working libraries country to-day, and, moreover, an part of the first part of all Amer ries. Yet ever since the Ridgway the Philadelphia Library with it ful wealth of valuable books

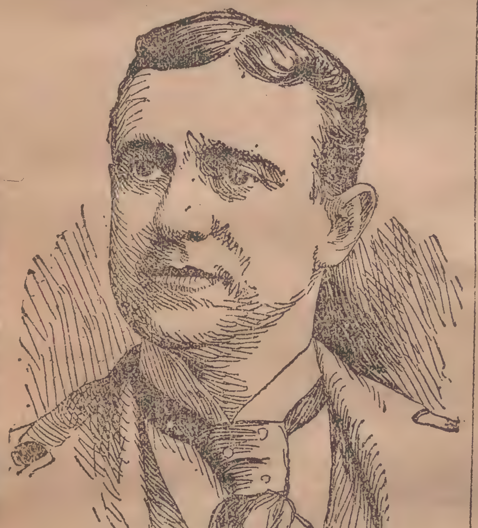
Girard Avenue Theatre.

"Ten Nights in a Bar Room" will have a splendid production at the Girard Avenue Theatre this week. It is a great play and teaches in a vivid way an excellent lesson. In this great drama the curse of intemperance is broadly and boldly shown in all its true colors. No sermon ever preached against this widespread evil could possibly have the effect obtained by the presentation on the stage, in true and vivid pictures, the series of misfortunes and crimes wholly due to liquor. Apart from the great value of the play in depicting all this, it has its moments of relief in comedy. *Sample Switchell*, the Down East Yankee boy, and *Mehitable Cartwright*, the Yankee girl, afford plenty of fun and add life and zest to all the other parts. Of late the drama has not been staged properly and the sympathy, exciting and other situations left to the care of mediocre performers. This will not be the case by any means at the Girard Avenue Theatre. The various characters will be taken by actors and actresses of ability and reputation, and a series of perfect entertainments can therefore be anticipated.

◆

A New Play at the Park.

The stage at the Park Theatre will be the scene, during the week, of the production of an entirely new play. The play, which is a comedy, with musical numbers introduced, is an adaptation of La Grave's "Qui est Maitre Ici?" and is owned by that popular young singer and actor, Will S. Rising. Mr. Rising saw the comedy while in Paris last summer, where it was enjoying a successful run, and being much taken with it, purchased the American rights. He has awaited a favorable opportunity to produce it and it seems to have arrived. Associated with him is Louis de Lange, a comedian of undoubted reputation, who has done clever comic opera work and in other branches besides. He has many friends here, although for the past few years engagements have kept him on the Pacific slope. The leading female role will be assumed by Miss Loie Fuller, one of the cleverest of the American soubrettes, and who has just returned from an extended stay in Europe. While abroad she played at the Gaiety Theatre, London, and during the illness of that queen of dancers, Miss Lettie Lind, filled her roles to the acceptation of the British public. Miss Fuller brings with her from London several new dances, which have never been seen here. Another member of the company is Miss Agnes Stone, who possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of rare excellence, and who will aid the success of the musical numbers materially. She is a sister of Miss Marie Stone, the dramatic songstress. Mr. Rising is intensely popular in Philadelphia and has a host of friends who remember his clever work as *Alvin Barry*, in "The Little Tycoon." A quartette of such excellent people should go far in making any piece a success. "Tangled Up" will be preceded each evening by the farce "Charity Begins at Home."



WILL S. RISING.

◆

Lyceum Theatre.

The City Sports Burlesque Company, after delighting unusually large audiences at the Kensington Theatre all last week, comes to the Lyceum Theatre this week, where it will doubtless afford equal pleasure. As to the entertainment itself enough has already been said in these columns. From the rising of the curtain till its final fall there is not one dull moment. Brilliant choruses, novel specialties, striking marches, witty comedians, catchy songs, Sanish dancers and living statues impersonated by perfectly formed beauties follow each other in rapid succession. Mlle. Zittella and Chrissie Sheridan are two charming queens of burlesque, handsome young woman and dashing comedians, and are closely followed by the Guichard Sisters, who appear as the Parisian models. The three Caballos, Nicholas, Mlle. Zarah and Teodulo, are undoubtedly the greatest of all aerial artistes, and their exhibition is one of fearless daring and skill. A beautiful young girl is Florence E. Evans, and her singing

THE DEVIL'S MINE.

Byrne, Neil Scully and Miss Nettie De Coursey, the "Mine" should prove itself to be a mine at the popular National.

◆

Can Kellar Overcome Nature's Laws?

Inventors have been striving for many years to overcome nature's laws far enough to secure perpetual motion and many other seemingly impossible or impracticable things. None of them have accomplished the object for which they strove, and it remained for Kellar, the wonder-worker, to apparently succeed where so many other men had failed. To the auditor in Egyptian Hall it appears as though Kellar had overcome the laws of nature in the accomplishment of many of his marvelous feats. Whether he has done so or not, he certainly shows the greatest of skill in the performance of feats of magic, and has made Egyptian Hall in less than three months one of the most popular places of amusement in the city. It is crowded at every performance, not only at night but on Saturday afternoons.

◆

Kensington Theatre.

The charming young actress, Miss May Henderson, supported by an excellent company, will appear this week in her thrilling drama, "The Indian Princess," which she has acted all over the country with great success. The plot is very effective. Two partners own an unprofitable gold mine. One, *Jack Harvey*, is married. One day an Irish lawyer comes to the mountains with the news that *Mrs. Harvey* has fallen heir to a large fortune. The other partner, *James Somers*, learns of this first and schemes to obtain the fortune and the wife, too. He causes *Harvey* to become jealous of his best friend, *Ralph Harlow*, and incites them to quarrel, which ends in a duel, and *Harvey*, as he supposes, kills *Harlow*. When he realized what he had done he is grief-stricken and turns upon *Somers* with the words: "I've killed one man; he was innocent of all harm. Now I'll kill another, but he shall be a guilty one this time." They fight and *Somers* forces *Harvey* up the side of the mountain and throws him over the precipice. The next act is supposed to take place three years after. The *Indian Princess* has found *Harvey* bleeding and dying at the foot of the mountain on the day of the duel and has taken him to the Indian village, where he has lived ever since. The fall has caused him to lose all recollections of the past. He thinks himself an Indian as are those with whom he lives. He is sleeping one day, watched over by the *Princess*, when word comes that a white man has invaded their lands and built upon their possessions. *Harvey*, or *Gold Hair*, as the Indians call him, is sent to destroy them and thus prove his fidelity to his tribe. He goes and, upon arriving at the place sees a woman sitting in front of the cabin. The woman is telling the child a story and, as *Jack* listens, he discovers that it is his own life's history he is hearing, and his own wife and child he has been sent to kill. From this point begins a series of startling surprises and most thrilling scenes, among which is the cabin in flames, the burning of *Jack Harvey* at the stake, the rescue by the *Princess*, the cave of gold, the great sluice and water scene and the lucky sh that saves *Harvey's* life.

◆

"All the Comforts of Home."

Gillette's merry comedy, "All the Comforts of Home," will bid farewell to Philadelphia at the Broad Street Theatre at the end of the present week. The business done by Frohman's clever company the past week has been very large. The receipts will be equal to some of the best in the run of this popular theatre. Gillette's clever work has proved its success by its increasing popularity wherever played. It is a play of incident rather than of plot, although it is by no means without dramatic force, and its effect depends chiefly upon its truth to nature (sometimes caricatured, to be sure), its really delightful dialogue and the continuous and unceasing

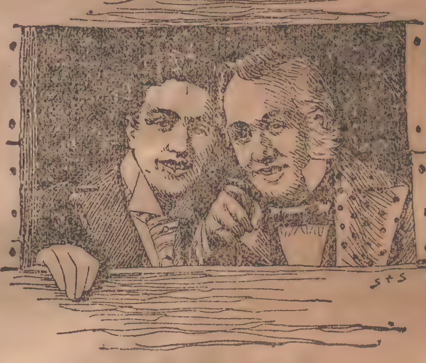
merriment of its movement. The success of "All the Comforts of Home" is significant, in that it fully demonstrates the demand for legitimate farce-comedy in contradistinction to the much-prevailing taste for rough-and-tumble farce-comedy of the horse-play style. The

promises to be one of the most intere events of the season at this house. The pany includes six comedians, Charles Bowser and Marie Sailer. The is said to be a very strong one, with thr sensational scenes. Uproarious fun, s ling wit, realism, sensation, pathos, ment and music have been cleverly ble making a striking and never-flagging tainment which is sure to please. cotton gin will be seen in full operat the plantation scene, and a set of chim will add to the musical features. McNish, the famous minstrel, has specially engaged, and will appear fo first time in a white face part. The act will introduce a realistic feature is claimed to surpass any sensationa on the stage to-day. A young girl across a telegraph wire to reach her who is imprisoned in a burning cotton w house.

◆

"Later On" at the Walnut.

The much abused, though popular style of entertainment called farce-comedy will be represented at the Walnut Street Theatre this week by two of its most successful followers, Hallen and Hart. These comedians have been identified with a nonsensical piece called "Later On" for several years, and by means of their efforts in it they have lifted themselves to a foremost place among the few out of a great many who have sought fame and fortune through this channel of light entertainment. Next season they intend to bring forward an entirely new piece, called "The Idea." It will therefore be the last time for theatre-goers to see this jolly farrago of nonsense in the adept hands of its makers. The company has been enlarged and many changes made from the old cast. It is pleasant to note that John McWade, the popular baritone, and Misses Mollie Fuller and Ada Sommers remain. Miss Clara Thropp, last year the irrepressible "kid" with Evans and Hoey, and Miss Sadie McDonald, a comely mite of unusual personal charm and dancing abilities, will share the soubrette honors of the reconstructed piece. The other members of the company are Miss Florence Bell, Carrie Wallace, Carrie DeMar, Ethel Ormonde, Mabel Nicholls, Emily Seymour, Will H. Sloan, Harry Hilton, George McDonnell, Samuel Cutter, Richard Reab, Charles Kettler and W. S. Francis. The chorus is said to be composed of girls of good size, looks, style and voice. Among the several musical novelties announced, the graceful effect of which will depend upon the chorus, is a musical conceit, called "The Sweet Robin Gavotte." The particular charm of this dance is that the movements are directed by singing birds. The birds are counterfeits of nature in form and voice, and are said to be singularly life-like and fetching. Another tuneful novelty is a serenade with autoharp accompainment. There are several other concerted numbers, which are said to be new in idea and especially winning. Hallen and Hart with their merry skit, "Later On," form one of the best drawing attractions in the farce-comedy list, and have obtained a large following of admirers in Philadelphia through their engagements in seasons past.



LATER ON.

◆

At the Central Theatre.

"A show for jaded people" is the term applied by the New York *Sun* in alluding to the new French Folly Burlesque Company which will be seen at the Central this week. They come here with the strongest possible indorsements from every manager where they have appeared. The Jardin Mabille "Whirlwind Dancers," ten in number, include such famous names as Miles. Antoinette Minot, Julie DeRoyale, Angelie d'Antoine, Marie Dubois, Nanine LaRose, Marcele Aubrey, Camille d'Orsay and Fayett Montaine, and are led in person by that wiry, high-kicking and voluptuous danseuse of the Imperial Cafe Chantant, Mlle. Lolotte Royale, for the last three years the belle of "wicked Paris." These charming young ladies will appear in the rather risque travesty entitled, "Paris After Dark," with all its Frenchy nonsense, winks, kicks, poses, shrugs and glances. The scenery used in this burletta, which was painted specially for this production, represents the "Pink Ball Room of the Palais Royale." When the Central's curtain rolls up on this picture to-morrow afternoon and evening, it can fail to arouse the most intense enth During the action of the olio the array of specialists will be seen

where 400,000 books, with its broad bal stairways, its splendid and majestic ceilings aspect

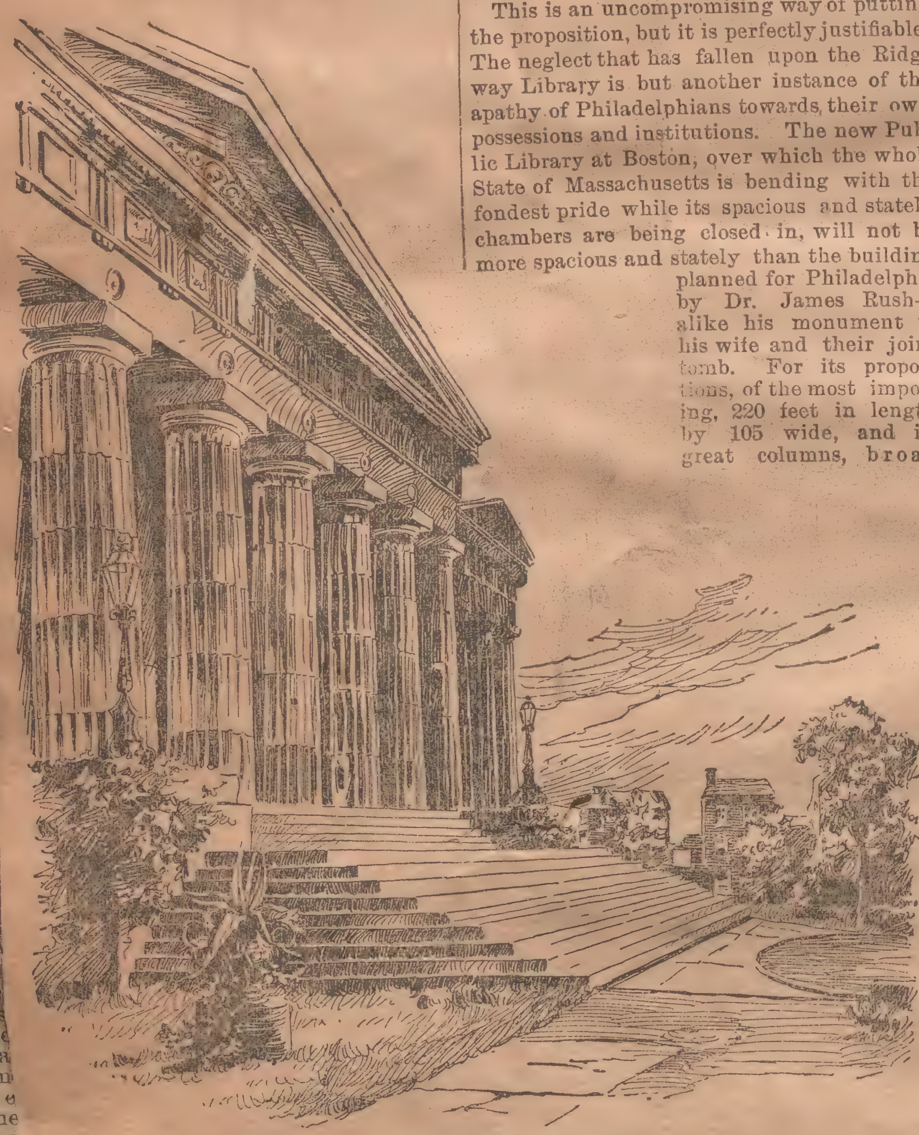
THE RECORD.

Nos. 917 and 919 CHESTNUT STREET.

The splendid Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, which cost $680,-000 and holds 110,000 volumes upon its shelves, is entertaining only twenty- a day. Quite an expensive

ry has been ignored by the great ma- of our citizens, and as was caustically day or two ago by one of its own share-rs, has supplied the greatest good to the fewest number. As an index of the rance that prevails concerning it, it may nentioned that within ten days an ap-ation for photographs of the library at a ll-known store where a specialty is ade of views of Philadelphia was met by e statement from two assistants that no uch building as the Ridgway Library ex-sted.

One reason for this ignorance is to be found in the situation of the library building. Some forty years ago there was immense faith in the development of the southern portion of Philadelphia. It was a survival of an earlier theory; progress westward had always been slow during the last century and the first part of the present century. Early Philadelphia straggled up toward Kensington, expanding, as was natural, along the river front. It took decades on decades to reach Ninth street, and then there was a long stretch of years before Broad street was fairly gained. When it was crossed people began to reason about future growth, and those who reasoned wrong looked down toward the Neck and saw a long flat plateau where they supposed the finest houses and the grandest public buildings would be set. The ardent among them bought land, which they held for years waiting for improvement to begin its march; others more ardent still built houses and occupied them for even wearier years waiting for their friends to follow; but the most notable testimony to the invincible and unalterable trend of the city to the northwest has been afforded by Dr. James Rush's bequest, in 1869, of a million dollars to the Philadelphia Library for the purpose of establishing the Ridgway Library. It was not originally intended by Dr. Rush that the library should occupy the site it does now, in fact the will left the choice of situation to the Philadelphia Library. But a short time before his death, and when anxious to secure sufficient extent of ground, he was offered the lot bounded by Broad, Carpenter, Thirteenth and Christian streets. This he purchased and was holding at the time of his death, and his executor took the view that the new rary must be built thereon. The direc- of the Philadelphia Library were not of me opinion as to the desirability of d while eager to accept and make ost munificent and splendid



THE DORIC PILLARS OF THE FRONT.

Third Regiment Armory, and south of Reed street Broad street is now continued between lines of commodious and pretty dwelling houses. But beside the Ridgway Library there is as yet to be found only one new building, a new residence of some architectural pretensions now in course of construction. And whether crowds have been attracted from the more northern part of the city may be judged from the fact that during the year ending in May, 1891, the daily average of visitors was twelve persons. There have been days when under its great portals there have passed but two visitors, and days when the librarian and his assistants have heard the walls echo to the footsteps of but one inquiring seeker for knowledge.

But the Ridgway Library is nearer to the centres of traffic and business than is the British Museum in London or the Astor Library in New York. The National Library in Paris is no further away from the chief quarters of residence and the rendezvous of the artist and the student. The working-men and women who attend the Midland Institute at Birmingham must often go a good deal further for their instruction than say from Callowhill street to Carpenter. The truth is—and the fact that the Ridgway Library has unfortunately been set out of the ordinary path in which the life of the city travels does not militate against it—that if the statistics of the attendance at the Ridgway library prove anything they prove that Philadelphians do not want a free reference library, and that the largest now established in the city is practically useless as an educational factor.

This is an uncompromising way of putting the proposition, but it is perfectly justifiable. The neglect that has fallen upon the Ridgway Library is but another instance of the apathy of Philadelphians towards their own possessions and institutions. The new Public Library at Boston, over which the whole State of Massachusetts is bending with the fondest pride while its spacious and stately chambers are being closed in, will not be more spacious and stately than the building planned for Philadelphia by Dr. James Rush—alike his monument to his wife and their joint tomb. For its proportions, of the most imposing, 220 feet in length by 105 wide, and its great columns, broad steps and magnificent centre hall are all in this intent subordinated to the quiet enclosure, where on a plain marble slab is carved the plain words:

SACRED
To the Memory of
MRS. PHŒBE ANN RUSH,
Daughter of
Jacob and Rebecca Ridgway,
and wife of
JAMES RUSH, M. D.
Born December 3rd, A. D. 1799.
Died October 23rd, A. D. 1857.
And of
JAMES RUSH, M. D.
Third Son of
Dr. Benjamin Rush and Julia (nee Stockton)
Rush.
Born March 15th, A. D. 1786.
Died May 26th, A. D. 1869.

Around these sleepers the spacious rooms and galleries, filled with their 100,000 volumes, are as silent as the dead themselves.

1531; an early Ger ersion, with nu-merous wood cuts, of "Reynard, the Fox;" and Copland's edition of Caxton's "Recueill of the Histories of Troye," London, 1553. One of the most interesting books in this class to bibliomaniacs is, surely, a glorious copy on vellum of the first Italian translation of Pliny's "Natural History." This exquisitely printed folio, "emphatically the glory of Janson's press," would be valuable enough if printed on paper, but it appears to be the one copy which Janson struck off on vellum.

The majority of these early printed books are from the private collection of William Mackenzie, of this city, who died about 1829, and bequeathed to the library all his books printed before 1800.

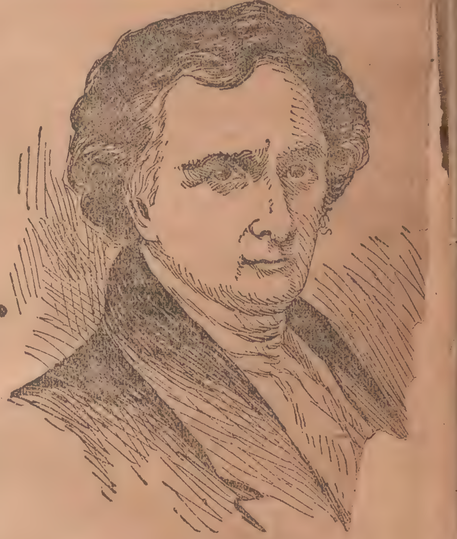
Of works relating to antiquities, may be noticed Lepsino's, Rosselini's, Denon's and Vyse's Egypt; Botta's and Layard's folio plates of Nineveh; Kingsborough's Mexico; eight folio volumes of plates on Herculaneum; Piranesi's works; Meyricks on Ancient Armor; Dugdale's Monasticon, and Le Roux de Lincy's Hotel de Ville de Paris. The collection of French, Spanish and Italian works in the department of belles-lettres and history embraces most of the standard authors. The edition of the French classics, in thirty-two large quarto volumes, entitled "Collection du Dauphin," and Landino's rare edition of Dante, Venice, 1512, may be mentioned in this connection. The collection of Spanish authors is perhaps the most complete of any public library in this country. Among the choice volumes are "El Conde Lucanor," by Prince Don Juan Manuel (Sevilla, 1575), described by Ticknor as "one of the rarest books in the world;" an edition of Celestina, the first Spanish dramatic work of note (1599); the Chronicle of the Cid (Burgos, 1593), and the Chronicle of King Alfonso (1604). The library contains also the excellent reprint of the ancient "Spanish Chronicles" (1787), and Zareta's Anales de la Corona de Aragon, with the supplement of Angensola. Other early dramatists, such as Calderon and Lope de Vega, are to be found, and it may be said that all the modern authors of consequence have been added to the collection. The Spanish writers on America are equally well represented. In the collection of English works may be found a complete set of the "English County Histories," of the "Royal Society's Transactions," the "Gentleman's Magazine," the "Annual Register," the several series of the "Parliamentary Debates" and other periodicals, some of them continued for more than a century; also voluminous publications of the Record Commission, a wonderful collection of seven hundred English pamphlets, in thirty-six volumes, quarto, published during the Revolutionary times, from 1620 to 1720, which, with "Somers' Tracts," the Harleian Miscellany and the publications of the various learned societies, eminently deserve the attention of the student.

In the department of works relating to America the library may, without any exaggeration, be said to be very rich and valuable. In fact, no writer or student of the history of our country should for a moment consider his investigations complete until he has consulted the rare sources of information within these walls.

The sets of newspapers, from the first number of the first paper published in Philadelphia, continuously to the present time, include a set of Bradford's *American Mercury* from 1719 to 1745; the *Pennsylvania Gazette* (which was published successively by Samuel Keimer, Dr. Benjamin Franklin and Hall & Sellers), complete from 1728 to 1804; the *Pennsylvania Journal* from 1747 to 1793; the *Pennsylvania Packet*, afterwards *Poulson's Advertiser*, under various names, from 1771 to the present time; the *Federal* and Philadelphia *Gazette* from 1788 to 1843, and the *United States Gazette*, now the *North American*, from 1791 to the present time. Altogether the file of early Pennsylvania newspapers is the most complete and valuable to be found in this country, and the titles recorded are but a few of the many catalogued. After the newspapers may be mentioned the magnificent collection of early American magazines and the inestimable collection of books, pamphlets, broadsides and manuscripts collected by Pierre du Suntiere, before, during and after the Revolution, and purchased by the library. A portion of these pamphlets and the larger part of the broadsides are believed to be unique. With these may be classed the 400 volumes, besides many scraps and numerous water-color and india ink pictures left to the library by Charles A. Poulson, and the McAllister collection of local scraps.

The Beschreibung von Pennsylvania, Frankfurt und Leipzig, 1704, by Pastorius,

mass of those who might explo of learning. Few go to read its amine its treasures of bibliograp history of the past life of the c nation in its files of old newspapers and hi torical collections—few go to study the li of the present day in its well arranged stor of statistical and geographical materia Even the relics of the Rush household, th furniture of the historic mansion on Chestnut street, the rare old china, engraving and works of art that are kept here, fail t



DR. JAMES RUSH.

attract the curiosity seekers wh a whet beyond the long Dori rears its stately front on Broa a great pity, and it is just li

---

Many of
more interested
nificent library
any of the 110,00
shelves. But that
readers to the Ri
parable value as a li
on all subjects of spec
ing either to history,
or belles lettres. It is closed,
only during the month of Aug
year.

THE WHISKY

tllen
etto, is Macaulay's
of Independence -
h. 10. has
outh 178-,
is
longing to
y the name
astonished,
prevails
city —
erson of
tradesmen
of subjects
him in
Atten?)

ES SUNDAY SPECIAL

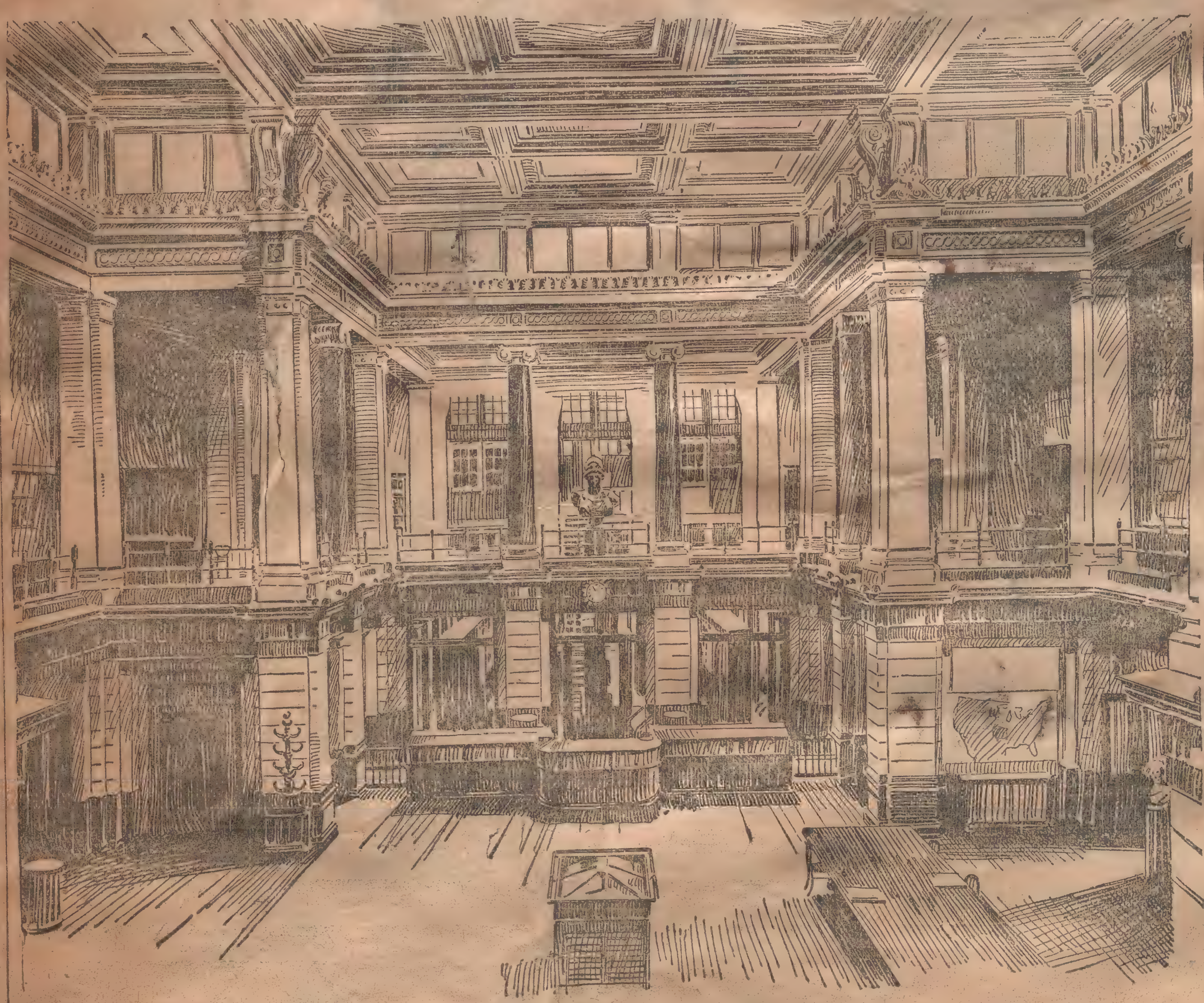
A Neglected Library

THE MAGNIFICENT RIDGWAY LIBRARY, OF WHICH MANY PHILADELPHIANS ARE IGNORANT, AND ITS TREASURES.

The decision in the Orphans' Court upon the will of the late George S. Pepper, who left $150,000 "to such free library as should be established" within certain limits in this city, if sustained on appeal, will give Philadelphia what it ought to have, what it needs and what it may be supposed to have been longing for, a library free in the technical sense. We cannot have too many libraries. But how strong has been the yearning of Philadelphians for a new library may be a question in the face of the fact that, as can be proved by statistics, so far as statistics can prove anything, most Philadelphians are either ignorant or careless that we have already a magnificent library of over 162,000 volumes, housed as no other library on the continent is yet housed, collected into a building of splendid architectural pretensions, set in grounds occupying an entire city square, practically, if not in terms of strict definition, free, covering all branches of learning both ancient and modern, in fact, one of the best reference and working libraries in this country to-day, and, moreover, an integral part of the first part of all American libraries. Yet ever since the Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library with its wonderful wealth of valuable books has been [illegible] the public of this city the bequest, went to the length of instituting legal proceedings in order to decide whether they were bound by the executor's construction of his duty. A decision of the Supreme Court rendered in 1873, however, settled it that they were, and the present stately edifice was constructed under the direction or the executor, the late Henry J. Williams. In 1878 the Philadelphia Library accepted it by the vote of its shareholders as the Ridgway Library, and the Loganian Library and the older and the less ephemeral books of the Philadelphia Library were thereupon removed to it. Shortly afterward the Philadelphia Library erected its present building at Juniper and Locust streets, since enlarged through the liberality of Mr. Henry C. Lea, and quitted the time-honored old building at Fifth and Library streets. There, then, the Ridgway Library now stands, nearly opposite the old railroad depot at Broad and Prime streets, a magnificent copy, in granite, of the Parthenon, isolated in the midst of its acres of green lawn that are enclosed by a high wall, and practically unvisited. During the thirteen years that it has stood there not a change has been made in its immediate surroundings. Yet its very coming would, it was alleged, alter the whole aspect of the neighborhood and make dignified and imposing buildings spring up all around it.

—

Somewhat near at hand, it is true, though [illegible] found, the new



LOOKING TOWARD THE LIBRARY DESK.

A footfall echoes in the hall and the visitor's voice almost alarms him as it breaks the intense quiet which reigns supreme. At the long green-covered tables, which might be lined with readers and workers by the score, two or three students may be seen, but it is only a chance. Quite as likely the tables are deserted. And yet in this building is to be found the far-famed Loganian library, the books which once belonged to the Rev. Samuel Preston—in fact, all the numerous works on science and learning which were printed before 1856 and some after that date, owned by the Philadelphia Library.

—

It was the express intent of Dr. Rush that the Ridgway Library should be a reference library pure and simple, and by the terms of his will novels, ephemeral biographies, current newspapers and periodicals and light literature in general were excluded from its shelves. The student who seeks the data which these may afford must therefore search for them in the main building of the Philadelphia Library, at Juniper and Locust. But to even partially enumerate the treasures which are stored in the Ridgway building would demand more space than is possible to grant.

Of its curious treasures in early printed books the following, at the moment on exhibition at the Locust street building, deserve notice: "Augustinus de Vita Christiana," printed in 1459 by Fust & Schoyffer, the inventors of printing; several works from the press of Janson, and three from that of Wynkyn de Worde; a copy of Caxton's "Golden Legend;" a Vulgate Bible, only two hundred copies of which were printed at Rome by Sweynheym & Pannartz, in 1471—pronounced very rare; another from the press of Koberger, at Nuremberg, in 1475; an English version printed by Grofton, in 1539, and a Noureau Testament, printed by Barthelemy & Boyer, at Lyons, about 1480; a noble edition of Perceforest—"De Tous les Romans de Chevalerie le Plus Estime," in six volumes, folio, Paris,

the founder of Germantown and the personal friend of William Penn, is an exceedingly rare book of great interest. With it is bound up a German translation of Gabriel Thomas' Pennsylvania and Faulkner's Curieuse Nachricht von Pennsylvania, 1702. H. J. Winckelmann's Der Americanischen Neuen Welt Beschreibung, Oldenburg, 1664, with woodcuts, is a most curious and extremely rare publication. Other German works on this country by no means often to be found in America are Gottfriendt's Historia Antipodium, Frankfurt, 1655, and Dapper's Unbekannte Neue Welt, Amsterdam, 1673; both have numerous fine plates and maps. There is a splendid copy of Campanius' Kort Beskrifning om Provinciennye Swerige, and Oralle's Historica Relacion del Reyno de Chile, with the maps and all the plates, is also a very choice book in the library. Plantagenet's "New Albion," "Leah and Rachel," and several other scarce books were reprinted in Force's Historical Tracts from the original copies in the Ridgway Library. There is not a public or private library in this country that is by any means as complete or rich in the department of Americana, covering the period of the Revolutionary war, as this library. Among these books and papers is to be seen a very curious volume, "Publications of the Enemy in Philadelphia in 1777 and 1778."

—

The library possesses two copies of the rare Aitken Bible, of 1782, published under the patronage of Congress, and "Poor Richard's Almanac" from 1733 to 1747. Charles Thomson's own copy, enriched by many marginal notes of his translation of the Bible, is another treasure. There are to be seen also two copies, the first and second editions, of the Rev. John Eliot's Indian Bible. Hakluyts' Voyages, De Bry's America and two copies of Smith's "Virginia" must not be forgotten in passing. The library has also made a specialty of collecting United States Government publications, and has the best collection of geological books and reports in America.

Some few years ago the company bought the late Professor Allen's large collection of works on chess. This collection has been kept up and is now one of the finest in the world. Within the last few weeks the library has received quite an accession to its literary treasures. Joseph L. Swaby, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., has presented to the institution the library of his brother, the late John H. Swaby, consisting of about one thousand volumes, mostly of Latin and Greek classics, and, what is rare here, a large number of works of modern Greek (Hellenic) literature, many of them first editions.

Those Philadelphians who knew the late Mr. Swaby and were aware of his scholarship and literary tastes will be glad to learn that his collection has been kept together and placed where it should be useful to scholars.

Of the large collection of manuscripts in this library, the most ancient is an exemplar of the entire Bible, on parchment of the date of 1016 (?). The most beautiful is an illuminated Psalter on fine vellum, and in perfect preservation; it appears to be a specimen of German art of the early part of the fifteenth century. Henry's manuscript Indian Dictionary, and an autobiography of John Fitch are well worth a careful inspection.

—

Dr. James Rush, the founder of this noble and neglected institution, showed a ju[illegible] pride in directing that his wife's name [illegible] his own parentage should be inscribed up[illegible] his tomb. The son of the great physician whose learning, philanthropy and original genius adorned, to use the good old word, the city of his dwelling place, and husband of a wife, the famous Madam Rush, whose social accomplishments, generous nature and indomitable spirit ranked her among the foremost women of a day when the weaker sex was still believed to flower in the woman of the salon—Dr. James Rush was, if any man, entitled to raise up the memorial he did among his fellow-citizens. The form which his bequest took was in the truest sense a great charity, and yet it has hitherto in great part failed of its object. The lofty, silent hall, where 400,000 books may be housed, with its broad balconies and wide stairways, its splendid rows of columns and majestic ceilings and its imposing aspect [illegible] remain

Little mistakes of J— — [illegible]

ART-STUDENT BURGLAR

He Broke Into the Philadelphia Library.

A CULTURED YOUTH FROM BOSTON.

He Was Poverty-Stricken, He Said, and It Was a Case of Steal or Starve—Shot at by the Watchman.

He was a well dressed young man, about 22 years old, and wore eyeglasses with that distinguished air that only comes to the Bostonian. About 1.30 o'clock yesterday morning he broke a window in the Philadelphia Library at Locust and Juniper streets, removed the bolt and was at work trying to examine the interior of the cash drawer, when whiz! went a burglar alarm. The young burglar made a bee-line for the nearest window and jumped, but the noise of the alarm awoke the colored janitor, William J. Phillips, who came with his revolver in hand, in time to see the burglar jump. There were two sharp reports, but the bullets evidently missed their victim, as a close search failed to reveal him, or any blood spots.

HIS HIDING PLACE INSECURE.

Policeman Gruber joined the janitor in his search, and suggested that the burglar might be hiding somewhere near the building. Sure enough, in the friendly shelter of an outer porch lay the redoubtable burglar, and he was promptly escorted to the Fifth district police station.

The case came before Magistrate Milligan at the morning criminal session, and the burglar's name was recorded as "Edward Rich, Boston, Mass."

"What made you break into the library?" was asked. Rich's face flushed, and he slowly wiped his eyeglasses as he answered, bitterly: "It was a case of getting into the library or suicide. I had only 12 cents at the time."

ART STUDENT AND SCULPTOR.

"What trade do you follow?"

"I am an art student and a sculptor."

"That is evident. You were cutting your way in when you got into trouble," said the Magistrate. "What about your family in Boston?"

Rich seemed to be broken up by the inquiry, and answered in a low voice that his family occupied a good position in Boston, but that it was nobody's business who they were. His answers were given in a way that showed at one time he must have had superior educational advantages.

HIS SERIOUS BREAK.

It was testified that Rich had been visiting the library for some time, and has borrowed books on educational subjects. But he made the fatal mistake when he located the surroundings of the library to his satisfaction, of forgetting to locate the presence of the burglar alarm guarding the cash. It was thought he gave an assumed name to the Magistrate.

[illegible] was held without bail to answer at

THE LEASE.

Under Bookworm

[illegible] spelled with

two m's

---

not know difference between

Attila & Chateaubriand's

"Atala"

---

missing book Russell's

"Tragedy of Ida Noble."

Scribner's Mag. Part 1/2 1892

Books stolen [illegible]

Errors

~~did~~ not know of

Marshall's Reminiscences!

told me by [illegible]

Sabin's dwelling,

[illegible] & those

---

unable to find Romance of

the Rose in Eng. cat. because

did not know ~~auth~~ authors.

Andrew Seth

Scottish Philosophy

[illegible]

and chaste binding.

PORTRAITS BY THE TEN THOUSAND.

Mr. Bunford Samuel of the Library Company of Philadelphia has just finished making a Portrait Index. In this age of illustration, even to keep abreast with what is called portraiture requires a vast expenditure of labor. There is not a day that a librarian is not asked: Where may a certain picture of a Caesar or a prizefighter be found? and such information can be rarely given, because the ground to be covered is so vast.

This index includes not fewer than 40,000 portraits, of which about 22,000 belong to former periods. The work was begun by Mr. Samuel in 1881 and h[illegible] been continued to the present year. Perhaps the task was easier to him than it would be to another man, because of his familiarity with books. Mr. Samuel says that "before the time of photography there were comparatively few personages, saving royalties, who were honored with portraits. It is in comparatively the modern period that portraits have become abundant."

In the number of printed portraits Queen Victoria and George Washington are well up toward the front. Victoria about leads among women. Marie Antoinette and Josephine are good seconds. Henry IV. of France and Louis XVI. are plentifully represented. Great personages of the past, such as Alexander, Caesar, and Cleopatra, are found in abundance.

Mr. Samuel gives in all cases the sources. His task is an endless one, provided he looks for completeness, for not a day passes that does not add to the number of portraits published. A well-regulated newspaper office which produces portraits knows how rapidly such particular illustrations multiply, and the difficulty of classifying and arranging them in scrapbooks is great. Publishers in New-York who issue regular illustrated papers, magazines, and books have collections of portraits which [illegible] many thousands.

When

The New-York Times

SATURDAY REVIEW OF BOOKS AND ART.

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1896.

EIGHT

JANUARY 14, 1897.

Men and Things

FROM among the letters of correspondents concerning events or topics that have been discoursed upon in these columns within the past few days, I pick out to-day those which may be of general interest. H. K. sends the following sugestive thoughts concerning the old Philadelphia Library Company:

Your remarks about the Library Company are to a point that can be extended, for, in effect, it is a perversion of the trust. Libraries are for the benefit of the public. At the formation of this library the city was comprised in a small radius, perhaps a dozen squares, and it did accommodate the community then existing. The same regulations and methods cannot accommodate the present circumstances. I had a share in this library when the assessment was then $2 per share; afterward it was changed to $4, and now it is made $8, with the privilege of taking out four books a day from each library, including the Ridgway branch. A voracious reader to use eight books a day is beyond conception, and, therefore, is perverting its purpose and intention.

But the fact I am desirous to draw attention to is that no new shares are issued and the existing number of shares is diminishing. Lloyd P. Smith told me that an average of a certain time reduced one share, one or two a year, I think. At the present time that average must be greatly increased, for who will buy a share at auction at any price when he is taxed $8 a year to hold it? Then, as the shares get reduced the property gets eventually in the hands of a few individuals. This feature of the case was an anxiety to Lloyd P. Smith, which is now going on more rapidly, and should have some attention given to it.

Kindred to this subject, "A Twenty-sixth Warder" has suggested that Councils should appoint a special committee to confer with the library company "on the possibility of making the Ridgway Library a part of the free library system of the city."

* * * *

"Veritas" puts a query relating to [illegible] stitution that grew out of the

---

Philadelphia Bureau of Press Clippings
No. 615 Walnut Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

POST.

From PITTSBURG, PA.

Date NOV 23 1896

Mr. Bunford Samuel, of the Library company, of Philadelphia, has just finished making a portrait index. In this age of illustration, even to keep abreast with what is called portraiture, requires a vast expenditure of labor. This index includes no fewer than 40,000 portraits, of which about 22,000 belong to former periods. The work was begun by Mr. Samuel in 1881, and has been continued to the present year. Perhaps the task was easier to him than it would be to another man, because of his familiarity with books. Mr. Samuel says that "before the time of photography there were comparatively few personages, saving royalties, who were honored with portraits. It is in comparatively the modern period that portraits have become abundant."

J. R. Ingersoll was [illegible] of a Philadelphia organization [illegible] vance Clay's candidacy for the presidency.

Fifty Years Ago Today

Removal of books was commenced from the Philadelphia Library to the building at Broad and Christian streets, erected as the Ridgway branch of the library.

The Camden and Atlantic Railroad began the running of a daily fast express from the Vine street wharf to Atlantic City, without stops, in ninety minutes.

The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Society was held, with Craig Biddle presiding. John William Wallace was elected president.

Twenty-five Years Ago

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the peti
of the Library company in the Town of Alexandria, praying that the act passe
at the last session of Assembly, intituled. An act to incorporate a Library Company in the Town of Alexandria" may be repealed, and a new law enacted, incorporating the said company with more extensive powers, is reasonable.- Provided however, that the said company ought not to have an unlimited power in purchasing and holding lands." Report from the committee for the Courts of Justice, Va. House of Delegates, Dec.22,1798

"Mr. Andrews reported from the committee for the Courts of Justice, to whom was recommended the bill to incorporate a Library company in the town of Alexandria, that the committee had according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and then delivered in at the clerks table, where the same was again twice read, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

"Ordered, That the said bill with the amendments thereto, be engrossed and read a third time." Journal of Va. House of Delegates, Jan. 5,1799.

"An engrossed bill 'to incorporate a library company in the town of Alexandria,' was read a third time." Jan. 7, 1799.

"The Senate have passed ***

"The act 'To incorporate a library company in the town of Alexandria.'"
Jan. 10, 1799.

"A bill to incorporate a library society at Front Royal, in the county of Frederick, were severally read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time." Jan. 14, 1799.

"Resolved, That the bill do pass, and that the title be, 'an act to incorporate a Librarian Society at Front Royal, in the county of Frederick."
Jan. 16, 1799.

The Library and the Museums.

[*From the New York Times, Nov. 20.*]

The application of the officers of the Tilden Trust to the Board of Estimate is one that concerns every taxpayer and every inhabitant of New York. It is very desirable in the interest of the city, that it shall be so acted upon as to increase the desirableness of New York as a place of residence, and to improve its position as a civilized capital.

The application stands upon precisely the same footing with the applications of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Natural History. Like the Tilden Trust, these are private corporations, but like the Tilden Trust they are organized and administered for the public good. The museums have been maintained largely at the expense of their own Trustees, and of such other private persons as have been induced to take an interest in them by the efforts of the Trustees, although it is for the good of all of us that they exist. The Trustees now say to the municipal authorities that the money they pay out of their own pockets merely to maintain the museums might better be devoted to increasing the collections, and thus enhancing the attractiveness and usefulness of the museums.

The case of the library is admirably stated by the Trustees in their letter to the Board of Estimate. It is very similar to the cases of the museums, except that, apparently, the Trustees do not ask the city to maintain the library, but only to provide it with a suitable building. The income from the property available to them, which they estimate, with moderation, at $80,000 a year, will, in their judgment, suffice to "equip and operate" the library after it is housed. In this respect their application differs from those of the museums, which are already housed. It seems to us that they might reasonably have asked the city to maintain as well as to erect the building, so that the whole income of the Tilden bequest should be available for the purpose of extending and improving the library. They do not say how much accumulated income is already available for the purchase of a library, or perhaps this accumulated income is reckoned by them as part of the principal. In that case it is evident that the initial outlay for books cannot be met without absorbing the income of many years, if the library is to be, as it ought to be, and as we hope to see it, one of the great libraries of the world. To make it so, and to keep it so, an annual expenditure of $80,000 upon the library itself is by no means an excessive sum. To show this it is necessary only to cite the case of the library of the British Museum. Although that library is nearly 150 years old, the annual outlay for new books is $50,000; for manuscript, $12,500, and for binding, $45,000; in all, $107,500, or $27,500 more than the whole estimated income of the Tilden Trust. And this, be it noted, is an expenditure made upon a library ancient and vast for the sole purpose of "keeping up with the times" and of taking advantage of the opportunities presented from time to time of acquiring rarities, while it does not include a single item of the cost of maintaining the building and of providing for its service. Certainly the Tilden Trustees, who expected three times as much as they have received, would not admit that they could not spend $80,000 a a year upon a new library to advantage, even if the city assumed not only the cost of the building, but the cost of administering the library itself.

It is time that the city should take a larger view than it has taken heretofore of its responsibility in these matters, and do its part to further the efforts of private munificence and public spirit for the advancement of the city and the good of all its inhabitants. The museums and the library will return the outlay made upon them to the city, not only indirectly in the instruction and enjoyment of the people, but directly, too, in taxes, by making New York a more desirable city to live in, and by attracting to it more of the people who can live where they will. They will tend to make it a metropolis, for these three institutions are really in their scheme and

---

Librarians
Victor Laprade was Librarian of the
Palais des arts at Lyon, 1847

Pennsylvania: Lib. Assn.
Petition for incorporation. 1837
7374.7.7

Librarian
.39 Gentil Bernard
v. Théâtre Français

Library Co. of Phila.
v. Philobiblion
June 1862. p. 157
(.51122. O.)

Libraries
Washington Liby.
mentioned in a list of advocates of 1828

Bill of Washington Liby. for overdue books
Dec. 1829.
7370.7

Librarians (celebrated)
v. Philobiblion (51122. O.)
Mch. 1863 p. 54
Casanova

FREE LIBRARY IN SIGHT

A Plan to Consolidate Existing Institutions.

MR. EDMUNDS HAS A PLAN

Plenty of Books if They Could Be Brought Together Under One Roof and Management.

The movement for a free public library, which will utilize the Pepper bequest of $250,000 and which is now taking practical steps, promises in a comparatively short time to fill what may fairly be considered as Philadelphia's greatest and most long felt want. Mother of libraries upon this continent during the old colonial days, she is now behind other great cities of the United States in this respect. Not only is she painfully lacking in a genuine public library, but, despite her long list of libraries, she holds inferior rank to many other cities in the number of libraries and number of books on their shelves.

Special libraries, to be sure, furnish something to boast of. The city may well be proud of the libraries of the Franklin Institute, with its 38,000 reference volumes; of the Academy of Natural Sciences, with its splendid collection, and of the College of Physicians, the second largest medical library in the country, with its 47,421 volumes. Of great value in their respective fields are also the libraries of the Historical Society; of the old American Philosophical Society, with its 50,000 volumes; of the German Society, with its 30,000 volumes, and of the Pedagogical Library, founded by ex-Superintendent of Schools MacAlister. The libraries of the Friends, of the various denominational societies and of the law associations swell the list to a large number.

But these libraries are all strictly reference ones, and where books are permitted to be put in circulation such privilege is reserved exclusively for members or stockholders. The three great libraries of the city—the Philadelphia, Mercantile and University—are open to the use of the public during hours, but books cannot be taken out by those not members except under somewhat oppressive conditions. The result is that a score of minor libraries have been instituted in various parts of the city, several of which are free, like the Apprentices and City Institute. Germantown, Frankford, Chestnut Hill, Tacony, Mt. Airy and Roxborough have their own local libraries.

The result has been that the circulation returns are distressingly small. With all its 173,000 volumes, the circulation of books at the Philadelphia Library last year was only 42,700, less than that of the Teachers' Institute, which, with only 12,600 books, had 64,000 issues. The University Library, with 110,000 volumes, was, of course, used solely for reference. The Mercantile Library, with 163,687 volumes, made the best record, a circulation of [illegible]. What different figures would have been registered had these libraries been free public ones can be seen by the return of the City Institute, a free library, which with only 15,456 volumes, had 72,859 circulation, and of the Apprentices', which with about an equal number of books, issued 70,000.

"To my mind there seems to be but one feasible solution of the whole matter," declared Librarian John Edmands, of the Mercantile Library, yesterday, an authority upon the subject. "A number of the libraries of the city should consolidate into one great public library."

"The Boston idea, and the idea prevalent in the West, has been that of a library, supported by a mill tax upon the valuation list. The outcome has been invariably successful, but although a bill somewhat to that effect is now before the Legislature of this State, I doubt if at present it can be carried. We are confronted in this city, furthermore, with a certain established condition of affairs, which would seem to render a different plan advisable.

"Ten years ago Mr. Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore, made an exceedingly shrewd bequest to that city, which has placed her in advance of Philadelphia in the matter of libraries. He built a great central library building and four branch buildings, at an expense of $250,000, and then offered to give them, along with $800,000 for purchase of books, to the city, provided the city would agree to appropriate $50,000 a year to the support of the library. He named all the trustees, and they are to be self-perpetuating.

"Here in Philadelphia we have many libraries already established and only needing to be united into one free public library. The University of Pennsylvania could not, of course, be included among these, and, owing to the nature of the Philadelphia Library's bequests and the probable sentiment of its stockholders, that would have to be left off the list—an additional matter of regret. But an amalgamation could undoubtedly be brought about between the Mercantile, Athenaeum, Apprentices', City Institute, Spring Garden Institute, Southwark, West Philadelphia, and several other libraries, besides the two public libraries founded by the Board of Education, the one at the Wagner Institute and the other at Broad and Federal streets.

"Besides their books, each library would bring to such a union its funds and resources. The Mercantile Library property and interests are worth about $600,000, the Apprentices' at least $100,000, and so on. The Free Library, to which was awarded the $150,000 George S. Pepper bequest, should, of course, contribute to that sum, now aggregating probably $250,000, to the general fund. All that would remain would be to raise from $200,000 to $300,000 additional.

"A fine central public library could then be built, together with one branch, at least. Other branches could be built as necessitated. The income would be sufficient, without city appropriation, to support the library. The outlying libraries, such as those at Germantown and Frankford, could remain as at present, serving their particular neighborhoods. A system of book-loaning could be easily arranged between the central library and them.

"As for stockholders and subscribers, they would cease to be. The library would be thoroughly a city institution. Upon the board of management the Mayor should sit as one of the trustees, as well as the Superintendent of Education, the Presidents of Girard College, of the Boys' High School and of the Girls' Normal School. Such representation would inspire confidence. The other trustees should be all representative, public-spirited citizens."

The Proposed Free Library.

The Free Library Association, which contemplates the establishing in a suitable location of a library, open without charge to any resident of the city, has issued a circular letter requesting citizens to forward their names as members to Mr. John Thomson, Secretary, Room No. 163, City Hall. The Free Library is being started under the most favorable auspices, and among those who are taking great interest in the matter are Messrs. George B. Roberts, Samuel Wagner, C. Stuart Patterson, Isaac Norris, M. D., Justus C. Strawbridge, William Platt Pepper, Clarence S. Bement, Joseph D. Potts, J. Parker Norris, R. H. Bayard Bowie, Samuel R. Shipley, William Pepper, M. D., Clarence H. Clark, George Tucker Bispham, David Pepper, Eugene Delano, J. Howard Gibson, Talcott Williams, Edward Shippen, J. B. Lippincott.

It has long been the hope that such a library should be established, and this hope has been transformed into a reality by the bequest of the late George S. Pepper, who left a sum approaching $250,000 in the hands of trustees for the purpose of founding such an institution. A charter has been obtained and it is proposed to erect a building which shall be a perpetual monument to the public spirit and zeal of the citizens of Philadelphia. The fee for membership will be $5 a year.

THE FREE LIBRARY'S $150,000.

Supreme Court Decides the Pepper Bequest Litigation.

The bequest of $150,000 left by the will of the late George Pepper to "the Free Library of Philadelphia" cannot legally be claimed by either the Mercantile Library Company or the Philadelphia City Institute. Both institutions did claim it, and appeal was taken to the Supreme Court. But yesterday that tribunal decided that the following language of the will debarred them from its possession: "To the trustees of such free library which may be established in the city of Philadelphia east of the River Schuylkill and south of Market street, $150,000." The executors have paid over this legacy to the trustees of the corporation known as the Free Library of Philadelphia, and the Supreme Court holds, as did the lower tribunal, that the award to the "Free Library" was the only one that could have been legally made.

Harrowgate's Free Library.

The citizens of Harrowgate interested in the formation of a new free library held a meeting in the building hereafter to be used for the library, No. 3565 Kensington avenue. Common Councilman Frederick Simons presided. The proposition of John P. Morris, of Chestnut Hill, to pay the rent of the building was accepted and resolutions of thanks passed. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Isaac Schlicter, president; William R. Knight, Common Councilman from the Twenty-fifth ward, vice president; Mrs. E. Sheetz, corresponding secretary; Miss E. Moore, recording secretary and treasurer. A Board of Directors was also chosen.

THE FREE LIBRARY.

A good start has been made towards the organization of the Free Library of Philadelphia on a scale commensurate with the size of the city and the work to be done. The bequest of $250,000 by the late George S. Pepper forms the nucleus, but much more will be required for the erection of a suitable building and the purchase of books. According to the plan as outlined there will be a large central library with branch circulating libraries in various sections of the city, as with the Pratt Library in Baltimore.

It is proposed to enlist the city in the enterprise and also to establish a Free Library Association as an auxiliary for the raising of funds. The members of this association can enjoy no special privileges in the matter of taking out books from a library that is to be free to all, but they can help the good work by paying $5 a year and have a voice in the management. Mr. John Thomson, who has been selected to act as Librarian, has also been chosen as Secretary of the Free Library Association, and has been given temporary quarters in the City Hall, Room No. 163, where he may be addressed for further information on the subject. A large fund must be raised before the library can be properly housed, but the project has obtained a fair start, and will surely receive such public support as to insure its success.

The Value of a Newspaper Reading-Room Recognized by the Boston Public Library.

By the following letter William C. Todd made the offer to endow a newspaper reading-room in the Boston Public Library:

BOSTON, June 16, 1893.

To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library:

Boston is a city of rare privileges, but it lacks one now possessed by many others—viz., a place where all, citizens and strangers, can enter freely and read the leading newspapers of the day—some such place as the Cooper Institute of New York affords.

The Boston Public Library is well supplied with magazines, but not with newspapers.

It is too late to discuss the value of newspapers. They have become a necessity. The business man, the student in every department, the politician anxious to feel the public pulse, the men who, like the Athenians of old, "spend their time either to tell or hear some new thing," all of every pursuit and condition, must read the newspapers to learn what has transpired the world over.

The press has become the great agency by which information is diffused, leading questions discussed, the people educated and public opinion moulded. Words spoken to a hundred people in the evening are the next morning read by a hundred thousand. Newspapers now form a large part of the reading of the whole community.

I have heard business men say that they read the newspapers daily, occasionally a magazine, hardly a book in a year. It is not enough to read one paper, and that partisan, if any one would be correctly informed and judge clearly; yet many newspapers are too expensive for ordinary readers, and a large part are desired only for occasional use.

All this is well understood, and need not have been repeated. Free reading-rooms, I have no doubt, in the not distant future will be even more in demand by the general public than free public libraries.

As the new Public Library Building is about to be opened, I trust this great want of Boston will be supplied. If the trustees will furnish a suitable room and provide for all incidental expenses, I will pay $2,000 annually, all of this sum to be expended in newspapers, and, sooner or later, will give a fund of $50,000 to secure forever this annual payment. Such payments are to be appropriated to furnishing newspapers for a reading-room in the new Central Public Library Building only. The aim shall be to select representative newspapers, giving the current thought of different sections of our own country and, to such an extent as the trustees may determine, of foreign countries, so as to provide a reading-room that shall satisfy the wants of citizens and also of the many strangers always to be found in Boston. No distinction shall be made in the selection of newspapers in favor of any religious sect or political party. I may add that my only interest in this matter is the wish to do some good to a great many people. Trusting that this proposition may be fairly received, I am very respectfully yours,

WILLIAM C. TODD.

The Public Library trustees sent the following reply to Mr. Todd's letter, accepting the offer:

BOSTON, June 20, 1893.

William C. Todd, Atkinson, N. H.

DEAR SIR: The trustees of the Public Library of the city of Boston have the honor to acknowledge your communication of the 16th inst.

They gratefully accept your very generous offer to provide the means for establishing a newspaper department in the new Public Library, where not only our citizens but all visiting strangers may learn what is said and done not only in the different States of the Union but in foreign countries.

They indorse all you say touching the value of newspapers. They think with you that the power and influence of the press are beyond estimate. As it directs public attention to all those great questions of politics, of religion, of literature, of science and of art, and does so much to guide public opinion therein, it becomes one of the chief factors in the advancement of civilization and the maintenance of those conservative forces which are the safeguard of our free institutions.

But, as you truly say, it is "too late to discuss the value of newspapers." It is recognized wherever there is constitutional government and wherever the people have voice in the direction of public affairs.

The want of such facilities as your generosity will provide has been long felt, but until other and more pressing needs were supplied the trustees have been unwilling to ask from the city government, which has been so liberal in its appropriations to this library for the people, the means to satisfy the deficiency.

The free Public Library, "open to all," was not established for the sole use of students and scholars, but for the enjoyment of the people of all classes and professions, especially the "plain people," to quote the language of our martyred President. These latter will greatly appreciate your benefaction.

It is pleasant to know that the gift comes from a citizen of another State who appreciates Boston and the "rare privileges" which an enlightened public spirit has provided for all her people. The conditions of your endowment increase its value, for they not only show your munificence, but also the broad and catholic spirit which prompted it.

Be assured that your name will always be dear to those who enjoy the fruits of your bounty and that you will be associated with the many benefactors of our free Public Library—with Bates and Ticknor and Everett and Bowditch and Scholfield and the many others who are gratefully remembered by all interested in popular education.

Be assured, also, that the present Board of Trustees, and without doubt their successors in office, will always respect the terms of your gift and faithfully execute the trusts reposed in them.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY [illegible] CITY OF BOSTON.

By Freder[illegible] President pro tempore.

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
OFFICE 713 FILBERT ST.
PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, October 6, 1892.

THE Board of Public Education of the City of Philadelphia requests the pleasure of your company at a public meeting to be held on the occasion of the opening of the first branch of the Philadelphia Public Library, founded by the city, in the hall of the Wagner Free Institute of Science, Montgomery Ave. and Seventeenth St., on Monday Evening, October Seventeenth, at eight o'clock.

HENRY R. EDMUNDS,
Chairman Committee on Library.

Catalogue of Burlington Library of 1758

3201. O. Log.

for sketch of Rev. Sam. Preston, benefactor of Phila. Lib., see Monthly Mag Aug. 1803 vol. 16. pt. 2. p. 91

BY AN EX-EDITOR.

The Veteran Has a Word to Say on Library Management and Its Critics.

As a practiced "rounder" in the matter of book-hunting in most of the great libraries open to the public in different parts of the country, I have been interested in a number of letters in one of the New York papers scoring the management of the Astor. There are only two or three libraries in the United States where the "rules" are not exasperating, but I have never found myself so completely a part of a system as when I am compelled to be a purchaser in an average business house. I was never treated with rudeness by an attendant in any library anywhere, but, on the contrary, I have often received extreme courtesy from librarians and their assistants, whose time was as valuable as my own. Mr. A. R. Spofford has gone to infinite personal pains more than once to unearth for me the treasures of the Library of Congress. Mr. Barton, the librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester, Mass., and his accomplished assistant, Miss Mary Robinson, have put themselves to personal inconvenience for a week at a time to enable me explore the vast store of newspapers that were the gift of the early printer, Isaiah Thomas; Miss A. E. Pinckney, of the Charleston, S.C., Library, has often helped me with an ungrudging spirit to what I could find nowhere else, and the heartiness with which Mr. Kelly has given me access to the stores of the New York Historical Society has delighted me on more than one occasion. Here at home, the officers of the Philadelphia Library and of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania have become my friends through their efforts to serve me. For fully ten years I have drawn without stint upon the knowledge of Mr. Bunford Samuel, of the treas[illegible] of the Ridgway branch of the Phila[illegible]phia Library, and I am in the habit [illegible]crossing the threshold of the buildin[illegible] Thirteenth and Locust streets [illegible] oft[illegible] that I am beginning to fe[illegible] of myself when I [illegible] the time and attention o[illegible]brarian Stone and Assista[illegible]brarian Jordan. All the persons [illegible] names I have mentioned are scholars and students, as well as library officials, while many of us who monopolize their time and put them in arrears with their work have little real claim upon their courtesy. Few visitors to libraries know what they want. To such persons catalogues and library cards are useless, but they are generally the most exacting in claiming the services and assistance of library attendants. In libraries that have many readers, like the Astor in New York and the Locust street home of the Philadelphia, the energies of the attendants are taxed to the utmost, but in an experience of a quarter of a century I cannot recall an instance where one of them was remiss.

—

I do not claim that I have always obtained what I wanted, even in the best regulated libraries, although I knew what I was looking for and that it was in the building. Once at the Boston Public Library I was told to come back in a year or two, when the new structure then building should be occupied, as what I asked for was among the not-get-atable books for which there was no room on the shelves. I had a similar experience in the Library of Congress at Washington, but saw what I wanted by looking over a huge heap of books that were piled up on the floor of one of the reading rooms because there was no room for them anywhere else. On either or both of these occasions I might have "gone off on my ear" and raised a mighty howl in the newspapers, claiming that I had been "turned away empty at the execrable" or that the institution was so managed as "to put the few people who patronize the library to the greatest inconvenience." It is easier to find fault than it would be for the fault-finder to remedy the faults of which he complains.

—

It is not to be denied, however, that some of the "rules" at some libraries are sometimes very provoking. I once made a journey to Baltimore to consult a newspaper file in the library of the Maryland Historical Society that I could find nowhere else. When the clock struck 2 I was informed that the room in which the newspaper files were kept was closed at that hour. I could have finished my work in thirty minutes, but the "rule" was a law of the Medes and Persians. I might have frowned, but I only smiled and remained over until the next day, passing the night in one of the worst beds I ever slept in in a tavern. For all I know the rule was a necessary one, but I would not undergo the mental strain of trying to discover its necessity.

The Astor Library has many rules that to say the least of them are extraordinary. One of these involves or used to involve instructions to the big fellow in the lower corridor with the frame and manners of Inspector Williams, the famous police clubber, to search such visitors as he might choose to suspect of theft. I know of what I speak on this matter, for one day he undertook to strip me of my overcoat because the newspaper in one of the pockets rendered me an object of suspicion to his High Mightiness. My only regret in that case was that I was not big enough to thrash the fellow. Another rule of the Astor Library forbade visitors to carry their canes into the reading rooms. When I asked one of the attendants for an explanation of this regulation he said it was because the inventor of the library rules feared that some impulsive reader seeing the author of his misery might find his walking-stick too convenient as a weapon.

—

I confess I have little sympathy with people who claim that great libraries are founded especially for the cultivation of workingmen or complain that they are "closed at hours when they might be most serviceable to the busy man." They can not easily be adapted to the wants or the hours of either of these classes, and there could be no better proof that a great library is not looked upon by the workingman or the busy man as a great boon than the empty tables at the Ridgway on Sunday afternoon. The workingman and the busy man are not apt to overlook the fact that every hour spent in a great library is an hour of work. The hardest work of my life has been done in libraries. It is work that is both laborious and exhausting, and if I were a worker in metals or in a counting room I am sure I should indulge in very little library labor. The books that great libraries are founded to preserve would put the workingman who is not essentially a library worker to sleep. In this country the workingman who is a book reader is also a book-buyer, and his library needs are better supplied by a lending library than libraries of reference like the Astor and the Ridgway, or the special collections of the historical, philosophical and scientific societies. The workingman is not likely to rush into print to complain of library management, and those of us who have occasion to use libraries often are constantly under so many obligations to the workingmen employed in them that we leave the fault-finding to the amateurs who sign themselves "E" and "S" and sneer at the "starved literati."

THE EX-EDITOR.

Insurance Funds Missin

McGinnis

— Bunford Samuel, assistant librarian of the Ridgeway branch of the Philadelphia library, has a remarkable memory, being able to recall without hesitation the title and location of any of the 110,000 volumes in his charge. Of the contents of books relating to the American Revolution he is said to be a complete master. Post Aug 13.

RIDGWAY LIBRA

N. Y. Times Sunday Aug 5

There is here in London now waiting shipment quite a remarkable collection of diaries, letters, and documents of public importance, bequeathed to the Public Library of Philadelphia by the late Benjamin Moran. He came over to England in some official capacity in Buchanan's time, and from 1864 to 1880, when appointed to the Portuguese mission, was the First Secretary of Legation here. In the bequest are his diaries covering 20 years, with minute daily studies of social and political London during all that period, besides elaborate and accurate pen portraits and estimates of all the great figures coming under his notice, American and European. Scarcely a day passed without some interesting entry. Often these were four or five pages long. There are some five thousand letters, public and private, bound by months, and embracing correspondence with Buchanan, Seward, Fish, Sumner, and scores of others of equal weight in America and the cream of the public men abroad. The stipulation of the bequest is that these shall not be published until 1891. When they do appear, if properly edited, the collection will be as contemporaneously valuable as the Greville and perhaps as rich in shrewd portraits as Pepys. From a cursory examination of the diaries I fancy that much new light will be thrown on the foreign relations of America during the war. Mayor Fitler's letter accepting the bequest was written a month ago.

The Philadelphia Library.

The recent election of Mr. James G. Barnwell as librarian of the Philadelphia Library as the successor of the late Lloyd P. Smith naturally leads to a consideration of the future of the library itself. Shall it be made a great library of reference for students or be turned into a popular lending library for readers of current fiction? It cannot be both. This library is now one of the best in the country—in some respects it is the best. Its early newspaper files and collections of pamphlets are invaluable, but still far from complete. It could have been made complete in these and many other directions as easily as it was made what it is. Great as the library is, it is great by accident, and if it is to become a popular lending library its future development must continue to be accidental.

As the library is now conducted it shows many anomalous features. What is now known as the Ridgway Branch reveals a stem greater than the trunk. It should, but it does not, contain all the treasures of the Philadelphia Library. For a popular library Christian street would be out of the way, but it is sufficiently accessible for students who go to it for study. As a consequence it should contain the valuable scrap-books now kept in Locust street, and every effort ought to be made to augment its stores with everything that will illustrate American history, literature and the graphic arts. If the future policy of the directors should be to make the Philadelphia Library what they can easily make it—the best library in the United States—the Locust street house is a hindrance rather than a help. A library animated by a single purpose should have only one home.

As a general public or lending library the Locust street establishment is admirably situated. If there is to be a free public library in Philadelphia it is exactly suited to the purpose. If the Philadelphia Library finds the lending system in a popular sense profitable there can be no objection to maintaining it, but in that case it should be restricted to the wants of its patrons. It is to be hoped, however, that the energies of the new librarian will be directed toward making the Ridgway Branch what every Philadelphian would be proud to call the Philadelphia Library. It is for Mr. Barnwell to build a splendid structure on a noble foundation.

An Impression of Philadelphia.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

Don't you think it looks tolerably strange that a great city like Philadelphia can not afford to have a decent free library to welcome people visiting here and the public generally; also that they should make money out of the Zoological Garden instead of having it free to everybody, and, above all, to compel the public to drink such dirty and almost poisoning stuff as Schuylkill water? No wonder there is lager beer at every other door. Pray, Mr. Editor, what is the matter, anyhow? Very respectfully,

A FOREIGN OBSERVING LADY.

1886

ENOCH [illegible] the Baltimore banker, who has just entered upon his 81st year, founded a free library in that city at a cost to himself of $1,250,000, and now he declares that he is the "happiest man in Baltimore," and that there has never been an hour in which he has regretted his gift. Now, aren't there a few fortune-favored Philadelphians willing to profit by good Enoch Pratt's example? He points out a short cut to happiness; and the Lord knows Philadelphia needs a great free library, of all things in the world.

Appeal from the Phil[illegible] Library Company.—The directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia have [illegible]d a circular saying that, failing the establishment of absolutely free libraries, it would seem to be the part of wisdom to support liberally the institutions now existing in our city, with a view of increasing their usefulness. The company has been in operation one hundred and fifty years, and the directors have endeavored to popularize and extend its advantages, so that at the present time it is open to all readers within the building free of charge, and to those taking books away at very reasonable rates. The public show their appreciation of these efforts in the constantly increasing attendance at the Locust street building, which now averages more than 600 per day. This large number of readers who have the free use of the library will require more room at an early day, and the natural growth of the library itself demands increased accommodation for books. The Directors in view of these facts have determined to appeal to the public for the necessary funds to enlarge the Locust street building, for which at least $75,000 would be required. The Library Company has no funds of its own available for such purposes, as the whole income from its investments is required for the maintenance of the present building; nor can any money be had from the Ridgway bequest, of which it is trustee.

It is proposed to secure, if possible, 50 persons to contribute $100 per annum each for five years; 100 persons $50 per annum each, 100 persons $25 per annum each, and 200 persons $12 50 per annum each, for the same length of time. This would bring in a total of $75,000. There will be an understanding that no subscription shall be binding on any estate in the event of death, and privilege is reserved for discontinuing in case of pecuniary inability to pay.

Subscriptions can be paid in one amount if desired, and sent to any of the following Directors: Charles Willing, 916 Spruce street; J. I. Clark Hare, 118 South Twenty-second; James S. Biddle, 1714 Locust; John S. Newbold, 300 Walnut; Casper Wister, S. E. corner Locust and Juniper; Edward S. Buckley, 209 South Third; S. Weir Mitchell, 1524 Walnut; Jas. H. Hutchinson, 133 South Twenty-second; Wm. Henry Rawle, 710 Walnut; Charles Platt, 232 Waln[illegible]; Francis W. Lewis, 2016 Spruce; Craig Biddle, 2033 Pine.

The Press

WEDNESDAY, N[illegible] 3, 1886.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARIAN.

The Directors Looking for a Bibliographer of Classical Attainments.

Much interest is felt in the contest for librarian of the Philadelphia Library. The directors who meet to-morrow afternoon, have as yet done nothing definite, but it is their desire to make the appointment without favoritism, and to procure the best man for the place. The librarian appointed will have control not only of the Philadelphia, but also of the Ridgway and Loganian Libraries.

It is a popular error that one of the descendants of the Logan family must hold this position, but several years ago the members of the family, together with a representative of the directors, rescinded this condition. The eldest direct descendant of the Loga family is now a hereditary trustee. Th position of librarian is very important, an the directors are anxious to procur a bibliographer of classical attainment The salary is $2500 a year, but it is likely to b increased in the future. The two most prom inent candidates are Mr. James G. Barnwel at present the Librarian of the University o Pennsylvania, and Mr. Abbott, the presen assistant, candidate by succession. Ab bott is very popular with all who have any thing to do with the library, and has fille acceptably his present position. Among th other candidates are Mr. Richard Meade Bat and Mr. Dorsey Gardner.

---

ourth-class matter.

FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARIES.

New York City is moving towards the establishment of a free circulating library. Two bills are now before the State Legislature incorporating such an institution. They provide for an appropriation of $[illegible]0,000 for a building and for an annual appropriation of $75,000 to support and enlarge the enterprise. It is probable that one of these measures will pass before the Legislature adjourns if the friends of the project can agree as to the most desirable plan for putting the scheme into practical operation. Some prefer a great central library with branches; one of the inducements held out by the advocates of this plan being the offer by some gentleman of 250,000 volumes as a free gift. The other plan is to establish a number of independent libraries in different parts of the city, thus saving the money that would be spent on a costly central building, and at the same time bringing the books nearer to the readers.

Experience has demonstrated the need of free circulating libraries in large cities. The success of the Boston Public Library has been a constant stimulus to similar enterprises elsewhere. The plan has been followed in Cincinnati and Chicago, each of which cities has a free circulating library modeled after the Boston plan. It was to provide Baltimore with such an institution that one of its public spirited citizens recently established and endowed the Enoch Pratt Free Library, giving for that purpose $1,145,833.33. The free library facilities of Chicago also will soon receive a large addition through the $2,000,000 left by the will of the late Walter L. Newberry. Distinct from these circulating libraries are the libraries of reference, of which Boston has the Athenæum, the Library of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the collections of its several institutes. Devoted to the same service are the Astor Library and the Lenox Library, of New York, and the Peabody Institute, of Baltimore.

But with the exception of Boston, and possibly of Baltimore, there is no city which [illegible] boast of a well arranged free [illegible] system. Philadelphia has plenty of li[illegible] of books, but for lack of method and ease reaching them their usefulness is sadly restricted. The city has no free circulating library, unless the Apprentices' Library, which has done a good work so far as its facilities permitted, be classed under that title. The Ridgway Library and its parent are intended to perform the duties of a general reference library. It has adorned South Broad Street with an elegant building, but it has not as yet given that stimulus to the intellectual progress of the city which its founder doubtless expected it would. The Athenæum supplies a restricted class of readers with good books, while the Franklin Institute is consulted by students in scientific and technical subjects. The collection which has approached the nearest to the character of a free circulating library is the Mercantile Library, but its waning fortunes of late years have been watched with concern by all who have hoped to see it fill a wider field of usefulness.

IA PRESS.—SATURDA

It has been estimated that there are about 4000 public and private libraries in Philadelphia containing over 3,000,000 volumes, and yet there are none of the great cities of the country, with the exception of New York, where it is not easier to find a good collection of books for general readers and brought within the reach of all. Most of the libraries are still in the older settled portion of the city, while the homes of the great mass of the people have drifted far beyond them. There is no greater intellectual stimulus for the people than libraries well selected and easily consulted, and Philadelphia, whose prosperity depends so largely upon the general intelligence of the masses of its population, ought not to neglect the assistance a free circulating library can give in this direction. Some one of the libraries now in existence could be secured probably as the nucleus of such an institution, and if aided by the city and fostered by private generosity it would soon become as much the pride and as great an adornment of Philadelphia as the Public Library is of Boston.

Philadelphia Libry —

See Job. R. Tyson, Annual discourse before Historical Society (54909.^{13}0) pp. 36 &c

— " —

960.7. p. 74?

Note about Libry

— " —

O. W. Holmes in "A Mortal Antipathy" p. 192 mentions Dr. B. Rush's [illegible]

E. Eggleston in "Circuit Rider"

Westcott Hist. of Philadelphia Chap. 623

praises catalogue of Phila Libry

adv. of P. L. in Phila. Gazette Jan 2. 1800

Krauth in his prolegomena to Berkeley's "Prin. of Human Understand." refers to Phila. ; p. 147. "Out of a literary association ... grew also the Phila. Libry to which the present moral & literary character of Phila. may be partly ascribed"

For letters referring to Ridgway Lib'y see Ledger, Press & Evng News 1882 between March & Oct. especially May–July.

For note of Phila. Lib'y see Lecky. Hist. of England in 18th century vol. 2. p. 20

"The name of the Frenchman is Daymons .. he is City Librarian" — Gordon, Lives of Dau p. 541

See Durand, "New materials vol" (52759. D.)

Death of Lloyd P. Smith, Librarian and Treasurer of the Library Company of Philadelphia.—Lloyd P. Smith, Librarian and Treasurer of the Library Company of Philadelphia, died at his home, No. 4703 Germantown avenue, yesterday morning, aged 64 years. His health had been unusually good until a few months ago. He was born February 6th, 1822. His father, John Jay Smith, his immediate predecessor as Librarian of the Philadelphia Company, placed him in Haverford College, from which he graduated at the age of 14 years. He received a business training in the dry goods house of Leaming & Co., and, while yet a very young man, began the publication of law books. This he followed up by publishing "Smith's Weekly Volume," a magazine which was credited with being "a select circulating library for town and country, containing the best popular literature." The publication began in 1845, and took the place of "Waldie's Select Circulating Library," which started with John Jay Smith as editor in 1832. In 1849 Lloyd P. Smith became assistant to his father as Librarian of the Philadelphia Company, and upon the resignation of the latter in 1851, after 22 years of service in the position, he succeeded to the office of Librarian. The library was then, and since 1799 had been, located at Fifth and Library streets. By the conditions of the will of James Logan, which were validated by an act of the Legislature approved March 31st, 1792, Mr. Smith, who was a direct descendant in the fourth generation of that distinguished Quaker and Deputy Governor of the Province, became the eighth hereditary librarian of the Loganian Library, then and now held by the Philadelphia Company in trust. He also had supervision of the Ridgway Library, of which the Philadelphia Company is trustee. During his long stewardship he translated many works. As a compiler and classifier he also rendered valuable and efficient service. For several years he was the editor of "Lippincott's Magazine." He frequently contributed to periodicals, and many of his literary productions are now registered at the library. Among others of these are "Remarks on the Existing Materials for Forming a Just Estimate of the Character of Napoleon the First," and "Remarks on the Apology for Imperial Usurpation Contained in Napoleon's Life of Cæsar." He prepared a paper on "The Classification of Books" in 1882, and compiled an elaborate "Bibliography of that Ancient and Honorable Order, the Society of the Cincinnati" in 1885. A speech at the inauguration of the new hall of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, of which he was a member, and a paper on "Symbolism and Science," are also among his works.

During the war Mr. Smith took an active part, with James M. Thomas, Frederic Collins, and others, in collecting money for the relief of the loyal people of Eastern Tennessee, and went in person to distribute the funds. He also enlisted as a three months' volunteer, and assisted in the defence of the nation during the Gettysburg campaign.

He married Hannah E., daughter of Isaac C. Jones, an East India merchant, and lived for many years on the estate of the latter at Rockland, now in Fairmount Park. He was a leading member of the National Association of Librarians, a trustee of old Laurel Hill Cemetery and one of the originators and formerly treasurer of the West Laurel Hill Company. He was also a member of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church, in Germantown.

THE CHOICE OF A LIBRARIAN for the Philadelphia Library—to be made, we suppose, before a great while—gives the Library authorities opportunity to select an officer who may worthily succeed the late Mr. Lloyd P. Smith and have the capacity and vigor to materially advance the interests of this great and representative collection of books. It is in its way a matter of very real importance, for the choice once made is in a manner lasting, and a blunder would give the affairs of the Library an unfortunate set-back. The head of such an institution should be a man of weight and influence; not a mere clerk or book-keeper, to hand books out as they are demanded and make a record of loans, but an executant of the first class, a scholar, and, beyond all, an enthusiast, earnest in extending the full powers and benefits of books, and solidly and earnestly helpful to inquirers. Such men are not easy to get, but they can be got through the right kind of effort. The Boston Library has such a head, and so has the Astor Library and the Library of Congress. The Chicago Public Library and the libraries of various of our colleges, such as Cornell and Johns Hopkins, are also in charge of experts of the first order, with the result that all those collections have reputation which extends far beyond their immediate neighborhood. It is very earnestly to be hoped that the Philadelphia Library may not fall into an easy rut through the making of an appointment of some inoffensive incompetent. By the old provision of the Logan will, by which the Library has always felt itself bound, the office of Librarian is reserved in the first instance to descendants of James Logan. We are given to understand that at this time there is no family applicant for the position. The business is therefore open, and we trust the authorities will make a determined effort to secure a director like Mr. Spofford or Mr Justin Winsor.

"2 libraries, ~~one~~ are belonging to the Province" &c.

Burnaby's travels p. 60

Ledger Mar 19/1888

A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

FOR many years the establishment of a great free public library has been dreamed about by some of the best citizens of Philadelphia. One eminent citizen dreamed about it to such an extent that he finally made up his mind to bequeath his wealth for the foundation of such an institution. Unfortunately, however, being a person of conceit rather than good judgment, he coupled his bequest with irrational conditions which would scarcely have occurred except to a disjointed thinker, and while the bestowal of his wealth has not altogether been without effect in the line intended, it certainly has not achieved the desired results. Philadelphia still needs what the Ridgway Library does not and never will give it; and the opportunity to do a very ~~great benefit to this city is as open as~~ it was before the Ridgway Library was established. ~~Concerning this matter of the found~~ing of a great free library, there has undoubtedly been much done in the way of waiting for bequests concerning which hints of more or less importance have been thrown out, although the experiences of the human kind in all ages are to the effect that this kind of waiting is about as profitless an occupation as intelligent men and women can well indulge in. To this sage conclusion appear to have come a number of citizens who enjoy repute for their public spirit and civic pride, and a scheme for a free public library is now in process of formulation which, if the names of those connected with it which have been announced mean anything in the way of active furtherance, ought to yield, and that right speedily, most gratifying results. It is most important, however, that there should be no such serious mistake made at the inception of an enterprise as this as a miscalculation of the cost of an effective beginning. It has been stated that the projectors of the scheme expect to raise the sum of $250,000 before making a start. But will they not have to raise at least four times this amount — or a million dollars at least — in order to make an effective beginning?—unless, indeed, there is some expectation that it will be possible to proceed upon an existing foundation. Such a possibility as this is certainly worthy of the most serious consideration, for in such a case a quarter of a million dollars might be able to accomplish something effective in the way of purchasing the necessary ground and in the erection of a building so planned that it would readily admit of expansion.

It cannot be too seriously borne in mind, however, that the sum of $250,000 will of itself accomplish very little towards providing the kind of an institution that the occasion calls for and that alone is worth striving for. Philadelphia is already very well supplied with public libraries which are managed on exceedingly liberal terms, and it has in the Apprentices' Library an admirable and, within limitations, an admirably equipped institution that goes a long way in the direction of supplying the needs of the same class of persons for whose edification the Public Library of Boston exists. Now, it is not at all worth while to spend money and energy in endeavoring to supplement these existing institutions except with one which shall aim to do in Philadelphia the work in behalf of culture that is done in Boston by the Public Library of that city, and which shall from the very start be rightly equipped. Of course it is impossible to expect that such an institution shall be at the beginning what energetic, liberal, and enlightened management will assuredly make it in course of time; but for all that, it is of great importance that a start shall be made on a liberal scale and under easy financial auspices. In other words, there is no need in Philadelphia for another small library, or for a library big or little, that will always be pleading poverty. On the other hand, there is a need for a library that will be great in every sense of the word, and that will come into being under the auspices of such an endowment as will enable it to start in a large and generous way, and not in a small and mean way. A free public library, rightly started, so far as the pecuniary considerations are concerned, will inevitably attract wealth, while one started on a mean and insufficient basis will repel it. One million dollars is the minimum endowment fund that should be decided upon; and if the right kind of business tact is used, we believe that this large sum can be and will be raised with an expedition which will surprise some of the conservatives among our citizens.

bout

VALUABLE CHESS LIBRARY FOR THE RIDGWAY LIBRARY.—During the lifetime of the late Professor George Allen of the University of Pennsylvania, he accumulated a valuable and almost unique library on the subject of chess and chess playing. This has just been secured for the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library by purchase from the executors. It comprises about a thousand printed volumes and five hundred letters and manuscripts, besides fifty engravings and photographs. It is said that the collection is equalled only by the famous chess collection of the Royal Library at the Hague, but is not surpassed even by that. The books are to be placed in a special alcove of the Ridgway building, adorned with chess emblems and portraits of chess celebrities, and provided with chess tables for the use of visitors.

Looking After Down-Town Interests.

Select Councilman William Thornton, of the Thirtieth ward, has addressed a communication to the Board of Managers of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, at Broad and Christian streets, suggesting that the sidewalk surrounding the blank walls of the institution on Carpenter, Thirteenth and Christian streets be illuminated by street lamps, as a preventive of indecency and immorality practised by certain individuals in nightly seclusion. It also suggests that the halls of the library be thrown open during the early part of the evening for the benefit of residents of that section of the city. Mr. Thornton likewise presented a request to Councils requesting the removal of the blank wall around the arsenal, on Gray's Ferry road, which is an eyesore.

Taggart's
Sunday Times
ed.
188

Philadelphia, May 8, 1885.

The Ridgway Library.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—You tell us that the Directory of the Philadelphia Library are considering the advisability of closing the Ridgway Branch on Sunday. Sunday is the day that lessens the "monumental failure" consequent upon the selection of the site. The daily average attendance is by last report 36 persons. The number is chiefly made up by the Sunday visitors. I rarely miss a Sunday afternoon, and while many visitors do not become readers, yet the desks will always be found occupied by such as are. It is the only day that many can visit the institution. It is a valuable storehouse for those engaged in any study, and I hope the public will not be deprived of the opportunity of gaining information.

As the Directors have shown they wish the public to use the institution, they cannot complain that they do not avail themselves of the benefits of it, as far as attendance and use of books is concerned, on Sundays. If the cost of maintenance is too great, by reason of extra cost, the public cannot object to the Directors closing it; but if otherwise, let it be known that there are many who use the Library on Sundays because they cannot do so on other days. I am

ONE.

IF THERE ARE ANY NEWSPAPER MEN who feel hurt at Dr. Rush's poor opinion of their work, they can console themselves by making an exact record in their papers of the use made of the Ridgway Library, founded by Dr. Rush. It occupies the noblest library building in the city, and is, in many respects, an important and valuable collection of books; but less use is made of its treasures than of the little institute libraries in the city. If it should be styled "a monumental failure," that would be a true expression of an existing fact.

The Ridgway Library.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—When the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library was opened to the public I was very much pleased to, and did, avail myself of the advantages of it, but during my visits on several Sundays I noticed that the majority of those present only promenaded through the building and retired, looking apparently half satisfied. But let those people step into the Philadelphia Library, at Locust and Juniper streets, and they will at once see what ought to be at the Ridgway Library, in view and within reach of all an excellent variety of books, edifying and instructive; the best magazines and many books of reference, with sufficient chairs and tables. I hope, Mr. Editor, that not only will the branch at Broad and Christian streets be kept open, but that a hearty effort will be made to make the place inviting, and liberal inducements offered to readers to go there and be instructed and elevated, instead of resorting to drinking saloons for the sake of the reading matter.

T. C. J.

[This suggestion is not practicable under the conditions on which the Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library was established. It is intended to be a reference library, and not for the perusal of "light" or ephemeral literature in its reading rooms.]

May 1885

"We are informed that the elegant new hall erected last summer by the Phil. Lib. Co. &c"

Brown's Federal Gazette, April 1/1790

THE bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia for January, 188[illegible], is an interesting production for every lover of books, and exhibits skill, research and rare knowledge of bibliography. This valuable library is one of which all Philadelphians may be justly proud, and the pamphlet just issued indicates that it is in a very prosperous condition. During the past six months there have been added to it about one thousand volumes. Many of these books are of great value and appear in various languages. One hundred and fifteen maps have also been procured by the library during the half year, and several valuable paintings. Besides a list of the new works, well classified, the bulletin contains numerous carefully prepared annotations and a long and complete list of the Issues of the Press in Pennsylvania from [illegible] together with the names of the printers.

That is no vain boast. It is the simple truth, and the Boston Public Library of to-day is but the sequence of the gift from Josiah Bates of a single hundred thousand dollars. In the sense in which the Boston institution is public, in the freedom with which its books are circulated, there is no public library in Philadelphia. The old Philadelphia Library is probably nearest to it in the advantages it offers the public, but it is still far distant from it.

The nucleus of a public library for Philadelphia might, if it were so managed, be found in the library which the University of Pennsylvania is about to set up in a new and spacious building. One of the trustees of the University lately said that it is "going to be, in a literary sense, the best institution of the kind in the State. I do not say that it will have such a collection as that of the Philadelphia Library, but what it has will be definite in the direction of pure science, pure literary scholarship and illustrated literature. It is to be a distinctive college library." This is all very well. But why not, when there is such need of a great public library in Philadelphia, build one upon the foundations of the University collection? That institution should be the literary centre of Philadelphia, of Pennsylvania even. It should be the chief and helpfulest educator of all, and from it should emanate the broadest educational influences, than which there can be none greater than those of a public library such as that of which the people of Boston enjoy the advantages—but it should have its main exchange east of the Schuylkill.

The Directors T[illegible] About Keeping It Open in the Evening.

The Directors of the Philadelphia Library are discussing the possibility of keeping it open in the evening.

Henry C. Lea, who takes an active interest in the affairs of the Library, and who has given $50,000 for building an extension, said to-day: "It seems to me that the Library ought to be kept open in the evening. Of course, a great many worthy people are directly benefitted by it now, but there are others who cannot avail themselves of its privileges because they are employed during the day. The Directors agreed that the usefulness of the institution would be increased by the change. The only trouble is that it would entail a large additional expense, and at present the Library cannot afford it. The Directors hope, however, by some means to place themselves in such a position that they can take this course."

FURNIT[illegible], BEDDING, ETC.

1027 MARKET STREET. 1027
AMOS HILLBORN & CO.

Evidently the Constitutional Centennial is to be a happy mixture of patriotism and self-congratulation. We have more money, bigger stores and handsomer houses than our forefathers had a hundred years ago. It is doubtful if we have any better heads or hearts than theirs.

A peep at old Dr. Rush's best furniture, now at the Rush branch of the Philadelphia Library, on South Broad street, or a glance at some of Girard's household goods, now at Girard College, will remind visitors that our grandfathers looked after the Constitution of their formation as well as the affairs of the nation.

On all the seven floors of our splendid store today there will be found articles of furniture that George Washington would have been glad to see and proud to own. A hundred years of experience have added many points of beauty to household decoration, and we always try to keep the solidity and honesty of the past, while adding all the more artistic improvements of later years.

After fifteen minutes' wise examination in our salesrooms you can find a set of bed-room furniture, a bed lounge, any single article of parlor or dining-room furniture as perfect and as much to your taste as if you had it made to order and waited six months for the same. Any sudden need of household furniture for the Centennial crowd can be as suddenly provided for by looking through the complete and splendid line of goods now in our establishment.

AMOS HILLBORN & CO.,
1027 MARKET STREET. 1027

PUBLIC LEDGER
AND DAILY TRANSCRIPT.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING
(EXCEPT SUNDAY)
AT THE
LEDGER BUILDING,
W. Corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets,
BY
GEORGE W. CHILDS.

The LEDGER is served by the carriers to subscribers in the city of Philadelphia and surrounding Cities, Villages and Towns for Twelve Cents a Week, payable weekly to the carriers only by whom served. It will be sent by mail to any address out of the city for Fifty Cents a Month.

Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

Philadelphia, Friday, June 14, 1889.

☞ Persons leaving the city during the summer can have the LEDGER mailed to them by ordering it at this office, either in person or by letter. Terms, 13 cents per week, 25 cents for two weeks or 50 cents per month, payable at the time of ordering.

A SUGGESTION.

Whoever considers the need or the possibility of securing a great public library for Philadelphia will naturally and inevitably turn to the Boston Public Library, knowing that there he will see the highest development and the greatest usefulness which any institution of the kind has reached in the United States.

The venerable Josiah Bates, who founded the Boston Public Library, was an American, a native of Massachusetts, who went to England, and, embarking in business there, attained to great fortune, $100,000 of which with wise charity he gave to establish this useful institution. Of him it may truly be said that in building as he did he builded better than he knew, as the benefits which have already resulted from his beneficent plan are inestimable, and day by day they multiply as the library he founded itself increases in material resources and usefulness.

In these days of enormous individual fortunes a hundred thousand dollars is not considered a great sum. But, to be properly considered, it must be considered in the light of what it has done, is doing and is to do by and through the establishment of the Public Library at Boston. William Cobbett, while still a poor peasant, working as a gardener's assistant for a few pence a day, found a copy of Swift's "Tale of a Tub," and, as he himself relates, upon the ideas evoked by the reading of that single volume was his education formed and his life planned. Cobbett became one of the great radical powers of England, a leader of the most sentient political thought, who helped much to hew the way of Englishmen toward increased political freedom.

If a single book could, if not actually create, at least awaken and develop the intellectual forces of a man like Cobbett, how shall anyone estimate the good likely to be accomplished in the awakening and developing of many minds by such an institution as the Public Library of Boston? It has grown to vast proportions upon the foundation of Josiah Bates, and, no doubt, its influence has grown with it. Among those who early recognized its possible usefulness were the venerable scholar in Spanish literature, George Ticknor, and the Rev. Theodore Parker, both of whom were among the first of the large number of generous, wise givers who from time to time have added to the literary wealth of the institution. It is an institution which has grown so great because of its deserving to do so. Having thus early proved its usefulness, there arose hosts of friends to help it in its work.

The last report of the librarian shows that, at the beginning of the present year, there were in the Boston Library 505,872 books, and that in 1888 as many as 12,916 volumes were added to the collection. The total number of books circulated during that year was 1,613,847. One statement which is made regarding the circulation is, that there is developed by those who use the library a steady and relatively increasing demand for books of a high class. The Boston *Advertiser* says: "Our citizens have in their Public Library not only one of the very few greatest and best collections of books in the world, but they enjoy the exalted distinction of having a free library, open to all the people, so far ahead of any other institution of the kind in America that no other [illegible] be compared with

---

THE FREE LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

Meeting of the Mercantile Library Committee—Application of the City Institute.

A meeting of the committee appointed by the Board of Managers of the Mercantile Library was held yesterday at the office of Charles Henry Hart, in the Drexel Building, to formulate plans and devise means for converting the Mercantile into a free public library.

In addition to Mr. Hart the members of the committee are T. Morris Perot, Joseph M. Bennet, Richard Wood, John P. Nicholson, William H. Lambert and N. E. Janney. It was decided to call a meeting of the stockholders of the Mercantile Library Company on Thursday, May 22d, at 3 P. M., to act upon a proposition to relinquish their stock in the library as contribution to a free public library for the city of Philadelphia, with the Mercantile Library as its basis, upon the securing of a sufficient fund for the purpose. The question of holding a public meeting of citizens looking toward the same end was discussed, but definite action was postponed until after the stockholders' meeting. The committee will hold another meeting on Saturday next to consider a definite plan for presentation to the stockholders.

At the regular meeting of the managers of the Philadelphia City Institute, last night, it was decided to make application for the $150,000 bequest of the late George S. Pepper. There were present Levi Knowles, President; C. Leland Harrison, George A. Frazier, S. Henry Norris, Treasurer; Thomas Williams, Jr., J. Randall Williams, Frank W. Muzzey, Secretary; Charles P. Perot, Theodore Wernwag, G. Heide Norris and David E. Williams. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By the will of George S. Pepper, deceased, he gives "to the Trustees of such free library which may be established in the city of Philadelphia, east of the river Schuylkill and south of Market street, $150,000;

And whereas, The Philadelphia City Institute is established as a free library, at the northeast corner of Chestnut and Eighteenth streets, and within the limits named; is free to all and in every sense established to carry out the common and popular idea of a free library; be it

Resolved, that the Committee on Finance be authorized to make application to the gentlemen who may be the executors of the will of George S. Pepper and present to them the claims of the Philadelphia City Institute for said legacy of $150,000; and if such executors are unwilling to decide as to the merits of such claim, that the same be presented to the Orphans' Court at the proper time.

Phila. Lby: Port Folio: Jan. 31, 1823, vol. 3, p. 49

notice of Loganian Library – Hazard's Register vol. 1. p. 133.

notice of the Library Co. 992. F. 47

" The Philadelphia 'Library' a mere coffee house lounge"
"Port Folio", 1801, 4o.
vol. 1. p. 231

Memorial to the Directors of the Library Co. of Phila.
"Port Folio." 1802. 4o
vol. 11. p. 109
" " " 27

[illegible] position to which he was called.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY has lately received quite an accession to its literary treasures. Mr. Joseph J. Swaby, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., has presented to that institution the library of his brother, the late John H. Swaby, consisting of about one thousand volumes, mostly of Latin and Greek classics and (what is rare here) a large number of works of modern Greek (Hellenic) literature, many of them of first editions.

Those who knew the late Mr. Swaby and were aware of his scholarship and literary tastes will be glad to learn that his collection has been kept together and placed where it will be useful to scholars. This gift was secured to the Philadelphia Library through its Assistant Librarian, Mr. Bunford Samuel.

CITY TREASURER WRIGHT'S

Port Folio vol. X July–Dec. 1820 p. 512 – Phila. Lby.

" " Phila. Record July 11, '94
Notice of Bs. Record 1890
" Paul Ford, Building of Franklin Inst.
" Macaulay, [illegible]
Dr. Leffman on Quarantine.
Balch on Ice Caverns

992. F. 47
Phila Lby.

11305. L. p. 158
Phila. Lby.

Note of Benj. Rush
Sutcliff, Travels in America
p. 62

A BENEFICIAL EDUCATIONAL SCHEME.

The LEDGER refers elsewhere this morning to the excellent work which the Franklin Institute and the University of Pennsylvania have laid out to do in the direction of extending their educational advantages to the public generally, through courses of lectures to be delivered occasionally by scientists and scholars of distinction. The great English schools, Oxford and Cambridge, have taken a long step in advance in this direction of either of our two public spirited institutions, and it is now announced that the Newberry Library—the great public library of Chicago, to the important work of which the LEDGER recently referred—has formally decided to inaugurate in the heart of that city the great undertaking of affording non-collegiate students facilities for the pursuit of special courses of study, day and evening, at such hours as will suit persons engaged at labor. The length of the courses and the hours of tuition will be so regulated as to accommodate the largest number of persons.

Dr. Poole, the eminent librarian, who is scarcely less distinguished as a University man, has consented to assume the direction of this most important work, and the Trustees of the Newberry Library have provided for the immediate erection of a lecture hall, with a seating capacity for 500 students. The courses of study will be entrusted to specialists of celebrity, who will direct them, it is stated, in accordance with the most vigorous and thoroughly approved methods. A part of this admirable educational enterprise will be the great library; its various departments, which will be filled with the most necessary and desirable special and technical works, will be open to the students, with instruction given regarding their most profitable use.

The beneficent scheme was originally suggested by the Chicago *Herald*, and its now assured realization is another proof of the enormous good that respectable journalism is constantly and quietly effecting by its intelligent suggestions. Of the plan itself the *Herald* says:

"It is needless to say that this scheme of university studies is not a superficial or flippant project. It is not intended to provide fundamentals of education. It is not an enlarged high school course. It will not take the place of regular university training in many subjects. It is not a plan to create scholars in twenty lessons. It is designed for those men and women, young and old, who, having had academic grounding, desire to carry on further study in various fields and to do it with sobriety, earnestness and thoroughness. The lecturers will not be the whole of the special courses. Each student will be required to perform a certain amount of labor apart from the lectures, to which they will be enlightening contributions. The lectures in the Chicago University extension courses under the auspices of the Newberry Library will be chosen from the highest professional ranks in the established universities."

The Newberry Library, owing to the wisdom of its founder, who endowed it in the noblest spirit of generosity, is pecuniarily able to carry this important educational work to the highest point of perfection; it is able to make itself the foundation of a university equal in usefulness to any in the country by merely extending its present scheme to its natural possibilities. The Franklin Institute and the University of Pennsylvania, which have done so much to prove their right to popular sympathy and support, are not pecuniarily able at present to do what the Newberry Library has resolved to do, but so far as their disability to so serve this community results from a mere lack of money it should be removed by the liberality of the wealthy citizens of Philadelphia.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The recent opening of the Drexel Institute has attracted attention to the work to be done there. One important part is the Library, primarily for the use of the teachers and pupils, and next for the public. Admirably housed in rooms well fitted for the purpose, and with an experienced staff, it is ready now with reference books and special collections and general works to serve its immediate needs. A comfortable reading room and a growing supply of technical and other periodicals will attract general readers. A very convenient manual of kindred work is found in Mr. Thomas Greenwood's Public Libraries, published by Cassells, giving a history of the recent movement for the establishment of local libraries. In England this began with an act of Parliament passed in 1850, under which 238 such libraries have been opened, mainly with buildings supplied by private gift, and books obtained from a small tax imposed by the voters in the manner prescribed by law.

It is interesting to see how much the example of the United States has furnished the impetus to the English-speaking and reading world in this direction. The example set by this country in the way of public education and of splendid endowments, both by public funds and the gifts of individuals, has been an important factor in securing some measure of like good work abroad. France now has over 35,000 libraries in its public schools, with over 4,000,000 of books, for the use of teachers and pupils. In the United States there are 1686 public libraries, with an aggregate of over 13,000,000 of volumes,—Pennsylvania is one of the few States that gives no money from the State or local treasuries for this form of education. Here private enterprise does the work, and the Drexel Institute is the most recent, as it is the greatest, endowment which includes a library as an important part of its splendid educational courses. Mr. Andrew Carnegie has given great sums of money, both to libraries in the State of Pennsylvania, in which his great industrial interests are established, and to his birthplace and other towns and cities of Scotland where he is as well known as he is here.

His benefactions include a million dollars for the Pittsburg Library, another million for the Pittsburg Art Gallery and Museum, $300,000 for the Allegheny City Library, $100,000 for the Carnegie Library at Braddock, $40,000 for the Johnstown Library, £50,000 for the Edinburgh Public Library, and more than that for libraries at Dunfermline, where he was born, Ayr, and other Scotch towns. In London, where the British Museum, with its vast library of over two millions of volumes is still sacred to scholars, there are thirty local libraries, in addition to many special libraries open to various classes of students. In Paris, where the great National Library is only open to readers well armed with credentials, there are sixty-four popular libraries, while Berlin has twenty-five. The city of London has a large and well furnished reading room at Guildhall, but considering that a library was established there in 1425, even its 70,000 volumes may be said to be a small number for its great age, and the present building dates only from 1872, and it yet needs a good lending library to put it on an equality with other cities.

The narrow limits of British munificence in the direction of libraries is shown by the small amounts of the gifts so gratefully received. Mr. Robert Dollar, of Marquette, Mich., a native of Falkirk, gave £1000, with which a library bearing his name has been established in that town with 5000 volumes. Liverpool has a great public library, founded by Sir William Brown, of the well-known American banking firm of Brown Brothers & Co. Birmingham and Manchester set the example, followed by many of the great English manufacturing centres, of establishing public libraries on the most liberal scale with public funds, and the taxpayers are all quite content to bear the small burthen which produces such good results. With the details gathered in Mr. Greenwood's book are given many useful suggestions as to the management of public libraries, and it is gratifying to find how general is the recognition of the great advance made in American libraries in everything that relates to their management—this is notable in the case of the library of the Drexel Institute, where all recent im- [illegible]

Phila[illegible]ia, Monday, Feb. 8, 1892.

—Frank Riley to W. H. Chamber

THE FREE LIBRARY.

Its Establishment at Last Takes Definite Shape—The Board of Directors.

One of the provisions of the will of the late George S. Pepper, reads as follows:

"To the trustees of such free library which may be established in the city of Philadelphia, east of the river Schuylkill and south of Market street, $150,000."

It is now announced that the long considered project of establishing a free library in Philadelphia has taken definite form. A charter has been granted for the institution, which will be known as "The Free Library of Philadelphia." The Board of Directors have organized by the election of Isaac Norris, M. D., as President; Charles C. Harrison, Esq., Vice President; G. Stuart Patterson, Esq., Treasurer, and George Henderson, Esq., Secretary. The directors comprise a number of gentlemen who were either related to, or were intimate friends of the late George S. Pepper, and who, having conversed frequently with him upon the subject, are entirely familiar with his intentions and wishes.

The executors of Mr. Pepper's estate have paid over to the directors the legacy of $150,000. This will be followed by the payment of the share of the residuary estate, which it is hoped will amount to not less than $100,000. Promises of valuable collections of books have already been received, which will make a splendid nucleus of a great library. It is expected that one single collection will number more than 10,000 volumes. A committee has been appointed to select a site, in accordance with the terms of Mr. Pepper's will, east of the river Schuylkill and south of Market street, and several admirable locations are already in contemplation.

It is, of course, manifest that the money received from Mr. Pepper's estate must be largely supplemented. An effort will be made to secure the co-operation of several library associations. A strong appeal, backed by vigorous personal exertions, will also be made by the Directors for gifts to the endowment fund of the free library. The plan of organization embodied in the by-laws which have been adopted provides for life members who have paid at least $100 at one time to the endowment fund, and for annual members, who shall pay at least $5 annually to the current expenses.

It cannot be doubted that several thousand persons can readily be found to become members of this Free Library Association. They will have the privilege of selecting the directors, as the board of 12 is divided into three groups, one of which goes out of office each year, in rotation, their successors being chosen at the annual election.

The Board of Directors, as at present constituted, consists of George Tucker Bispham, Charles C. Harrison, George Henderson, E. S. Harlan, J. Parker Norris 2d, Isaac Norris, William Platt Pepper, William Pepper, David Pepper, C. Stuart Patterson, Joseph D. Potts, Samuel Wagner.

on Worthless Checks.

To get ideas for the establishment of a public library two men recently investigated the literary taste of a certain uptown mill, where 200 men and women are employed. They found that not a single one of these 200 had ever read a line of Dickens, Thackeray or Scott, to say nothing of the equally great but lesser known novelists. No poet was thoroughly known, though Longfellow's "Psalm of Life," Poe's "Raven" and Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" were mentioned by eleven. Among the woman certain books—novels—were cited as being very good, but the names of these books had never been heard of by the investigators before, and none of the readers themselves knew the names of the authors. Some of the men professed to be fond of reading history, but if they were asked whose history they would say: "Oh, the history of this country or England, or ancient history," so it was evident that their historical taste was not very strong, after all. Kipling had been heard of as a sick man. Stephen Crane was unknown, as were Thomas Hardy, Meredith, Howells, James and the rest of the principal novelists. Rider Haggard's "She" and Stevenson's "Treasure Island" had been read by a small fraction of the people in the mill. The investigators decided that a library was very badly needed in that locality. The millhands wondered if, with the books, they would also be given the time to read them.

* *

Just because he was unsp
his efforts to secure w

Philadelphia, Thursday, Oct. 2, 1890.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AS PUBLIC EDUCATORS.

At the last annual meeting of the Library Association, the members of which are among the most distinguished librarians of the United States, the consensus of expressed opinion was that the library is "an integral part of the system of national education." Mr. George William Curtis says: "One of the most powerful social forces, but hitherto largely undeveloped in this country, is the library. * * * The revival and regeneration of the college in America is part of a general fresh monument for higher education with all the advantages of modern thought. This interest extends to the library, which is now becoming an essential part of the system of education." Carlyle said: "The true university of these days is a collection of books." Mr. Spofford, of the Library of Congress, the most eminent librarian in the country, said: "A good library is like a dictionary—not a mere mass of pages to be read through, but a vast repository of learning for the continual use and reference of all comers."

The position of Philadelphia in respect of what may be called, with the greatest liberality, public libraries, is not such as to indicate that it fully agrees with the authorities above quoted. When contrasted in this particular with other American cities, the result is found to be not wholly satisfactory.

In the broad and general meaning of the name, Philadelphia has but few practically free public libraries, the Apprentices', whose generous spirit is greatly hindered by its lack of resources, and the kindred ones like the City Institute, the West Philadelphia, the Spring Garden and others, the progeny of the Young Man's Institute. The nearest approach to large public libraries, are the Philadelphia and its Ridgway branch, the Mercantile and the Historical, the Franklin Institute, the Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical, being special, we do not include, though they are all large and very valuable. They are, in fact, limited libraries, as what is meant by a public library is a "free-lending" one, which neither of them is. Nor is either a great library in the sense that either the Boston, the Chicago, the Library of Congress, or the Astor, the Mercantile, the Albany, the Lenox, of New York, or the Harvard, of Cambridge, is. Philadelphia has the suggestion of the promise of the nucleus of a great public library in either the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, which is shortly to be dedicated to educational uses, or in the devise of the late George S. Pepper of $150,000. This sum is a larger one by a third than that which was the foundation of the famous Boston Public Library, which has now in course of erection for its principal collection—which, at present, consists of about 350,000 volumes—a building, the cost of which will be nearly $2,500,000. In addition to the main library, it has a dozen subsidiary libraries, with over 100,000 volumes. The Boston Public Library is properly considered a part of the general system of education and is most liberally sustained from the municipal treasury. When it is considered that this great institution was established no earlier than 1848, it will be found to offer strong testimony to the wise, generous policy of the people of Boston.

It is a very common belief that the Boston Public Library is first in circulation in this country. But from statistics prepared by Dr. Poole, the eminent librarian of the Chicago Public Library, that distinction is enjoyed by the institution of which he is chief. Dr. Poole says: "The number of books taken out for home use the past year was 834,971, and the number used in the reference department was 376,508, making a total of 1,211,479. The corresponding statistics of the Boston Public Library, as shown in its report for 1889, are as follows: Circulation for home use, 800,668 volumes; used in the reference rooms of Bates Hall and of the branches 278,362, making a total of 1,079,030." The larger circulation of the Chicago Library is the more remarkable for the reason that it has not half so many volumes as the Boston institution. In addition to that which is called the Chicago Public Library, there are in that city—one in operation, another about to be opened—two reference public libraries, each of which has endowments to the amount of $3,000,000. The first of these, the Newberry Library, is especially rich in the literature of music, its collection being the largest and most complete in the country, or, at least, so say [illegible] Thomas and Walter Damrosch. The antiquarian part of this collection was founded on th[illegible] of Flo[illegible]

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY; ANOTHER NOBLE STRUCTURE.

It seems but a few months since we were considering the subject of granting a strip from the Blockley Almshouse property to the University of Pennsylvania on which to put up a building for a great Library. Then the realization of the ambitious design appeared to be a thing that could come only in a somewhat remote future; yet, while in point of fact three years of time have elapsed, who that looked on Saturday upon the stately and admirably adapted and equipped Free Library edifice then thrown open to the public but must have wondered that in so short a time even as three years so grand a realization is already here.

If the ceremonial of Saturday, and the assemblage of so many of our people, who, in various ways, represent the intelligence, the merit and the worth of Philadelphia, had had no further significance than to mark the addition of one more grand building to the number of such structures in our city—even then the event would have been worthy of distinction. But this edifice is also to add another to those already dedicated as homes and centres of learning, of science, of art, of useful knowledge, of far-reaching thought, and of that intellectual action that bears fruit in practical work for the good of mankind.

It is to house what is intended to be, and what we do not doubt will be—at a time not far in the future—a great Library—concentrating the knowledge, and the wisdom, and the enlightened human intellect of all the past, and this is to be free of access and free for use—to all well-behaved persons—for all time to come, so far as the authorities of the University can provide for and foresee. It is also to house a most instructive museum of archæology, ethnology, anthropology and correlated subjects and studies. The Library already possesses not far from a hundred thousand volumes, and the museum thousands of treasures, some of them priceless. The books embrace the unique and valuable collections of Stephen Colwell, Henry C. Carey, Evans Rogers, the Wetherill Library of Chemistry, the Allen Library, the Henry Seybert Library, and the late Attorney-General Brewster's Library, now known as the "Biddle Library," having been purchased and dedicated to the memory of the late George Biddle, Esq., a bright graduate of the University, happily apostrophized during the ceremonies of Saturday, by Dr. Horace Howard Furness, in Milton's line:

> "Young Lycidas is dead—dead ere his prime."

The museum is already possessed of riches from Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian and American antiquity—some of the Assyrian dating back to the ninth century before the Christian era, and some of the gems such as cannot be duplicated for money.

These collections of skillfully selected books and libraries, and of specially collected objects for the museum, extensive as they already are—and valuable—are but so many nuclei for the great Library of three hundred thousand volumes and its companion museum which the noble edifice dedicated on Saturday is to shelter within its wings and walls.

He would have been but a stolid Philadelphian or dull-spirited American present at that scene on Saturday who would not have felt pride in the University of Pennsylvania and a sense of thankfulness and gratitude to the University authorities and the generous women and men of Philadelphia who have aided in the creation of the noble groups of buildings which adorn and distinguish the University grounds—this grand Library building being the last—last only for the present. Thankfulness and gratitude would have gone out to the dead as well as to the living for that transformation from the old Ninth street quarters of the University to those newer and more stately piles—work begun by John Welsh, Frederick Fraley, Charles J. Stillé and their colleagues, worthily and most efficiently continued by Dr. William Pepper and his co-laborers. Those who have seen both homes of the University—the old and the new—can well say without undue exaltation:

> "We saw from out the [waste] her structures rise,
> As from the stroke of the enchanter's wand."

ONE OF THE SUGGESTIONS made by [illegible] have been visiting Sec- [illegible] entirely rea-

MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES.

This wise old maxim would seem to be, in the light of the many last wills and testaments which are contested and broken, to be particularly addressed to those persons who propose to devote their possessions to public uses. The LEDGER made reference the other day in its remarks upon Public Libraries to the inchoate Crerar Reference Library of Chicago. Since that reference was made a suit has been begun by some remote kin of the would-be founder of the library to have the will set aside in their favor, and, though they may lose their case, the Chicago newspapers are of one mind, that a protracted legal struggle for the Crerar millions has commenced, which, while it is certain to entail enormous costs upon the trustees of the library endowment fund, will also seriously delay the execution of the trust.

John Crerar died less than a year ago, leaving a will written by his own hand, which, it is said, has been much admired for its quaintness and enlightened judgment in the disposition of his estate. Having provided liberally for all the relatives that he knew by name—he died a bachelor—and for others whose names he did not know, for his church, for charitable societies and for personal friends, he devised the remainder, $3,000,000, to a board of trustees for the founding of a public library in Chicago.

There is much solicitude felt by the friends of the intended institution with regard to the result of the legal contest just entered upon, for the reason that it is based upon grounds which the courts of Chicago have found good in the case of the successfully contested Taylor will—too great powers conferred upon the trustees. Yet, it is stated that, when this will, which provided for the endowment of a free college, was published, it was generally regarded as a model of clearness and good sense. The legal contestants, however, succeeded in frustrating the testator's intentions.

Another case which is also receiving attention in Chicago is what is known as the Lewis bequest, which provided for the endowment of a free polytechnic institute that should now be in operation, but for which the site has not yet been selected. In this case the will of the generous founder may not be permanently defeated, but it has been already long delayed.

Here are three instances in a single city, all nearly contemporaneous, of the testamentary purposes of persons of great public spirit and benevolence being either wholly defeated or procrastinated to the great loss and injury of the public. They are but examples of similar cases which any of the LEDGER's readers can call to mind of wills set aside and benevolent projects, which promised to be of great public value, rendered futile. They are so numerous as to be of especial significance to those who propose to do good after death, admonishing them to do it before death, to the end that they themselves doing it may make sure that it will be done, and that the benefits intended shall be conferred upon and enjoyed by those for whom they are contemplated. It has been proved time and time again, and many times again, that the most shrewdly drawn will may be declared invalid, and that the most carefully considered bequests for the public good may be rendered nugatory by contesting kin.

[illegible] which conta[illegible]s nearly [illegible] and rare books on Italian music. In addition, it has the full scores of all the great masters, and nearly complete sets of standard operas, oratorios, cantatas, as well as works relating to the history, science, theory and instruments of music. The second of these technical libraries of Chicago, which is presently to be opened to the public, is known as the Crerar Library, and is founded on a devise to trustees of $3,000,000.

Including the Apprentices' Library, Philadelphia has but the few "free-lending" libraries, in the sense that its sister cities have them, above noted. It is so scarcely complimentary to it that it is so far surpassed in this particular by neighboring cities.

eve.

The Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia, for March, 1891, new series, No. 26, is a pamphlet of 90 pages, giving a list of the more important books added since September, 1890. Over 2400 volumes, mostly new works, in some instances old books needed to complete special subjects, or gifts from authors or collectors, have been added to the growing wealth distributed and well housed, and, better still, for ready use, well catalogued, in the comfortable library at Juniper and Locust streets, or in the splendid Ridgway Library, at Broad and Christian streets. The "Bulletin" marks by B. and L. the Ridgway Branch and the Loganian Library, but its reference number and the facilities furnished by the library enable any student to get the books he needs, while the fine addition in the library and reading room at the Locust street building, the splendid gift of Henry C. Lea, Esq., himself author, scholar and owner of one of the best private libraries in the country, gives a comfortable workroom to every one engaged in studies for which he needs ready access to a large library. The Philadelphia Library is part of the literary history of Philadelphia, and from its modest start, under the inspiration of Franklin and his associates of the Junto, told in his famous autobiography, down to our own day, it has been fortunate in its management and in its administration. The Loganian Library, one of the rarest collections of books of colonial days, was wisely handed over to it, and with a fund which provides a small income for the addition of classical and literary works, in keeping with the curious selection made by James Logan for his own studies. The Ridgway Branch is the monument created by the will of Dr. James Rush to the well-known family which gave him a wife and a fortune, wisely put to this great public use. Mr. Lea's gift of the new reading room is the largest one of our own day, and it is to be hoped that his example will lead to other liber [illegible] this useful institution, which has grown with the growth of the city to its present extent.

Among the donors of books acknowledged in this last Bulletin are many familiar Philadelphians and not a few institutions and public bodies at home and abroad. The British Government continues its gift of its publications of historical papers, in pleasant recognition of the fact that a good many years ago the Philadelphia Library returned to England a large collection of original state papers which had found their way to the library. The subdivisions in the Bulletin include works on religion, jurisprudence, science and arts, belles lettres, fiction, history and bibliography, showing in the additions under each head the discriminating care exercised by the managers and librarian. The use of the card catalogue enables every student to ascertain exactly what books the library contains, and the assistants give intelligent help to every one engaged in serious literary work, while the managers are glad to receive suggestions as to books that ought to be in the library and to buy them just as fast as their limited income allows. Added endowment is all that is needed to make it really a great library.

orily.

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY BUILDING.

The $180,000 Structure on the East Campus Completed and Occupied.

The new library building on the east campus of the University of Pennsylvania has been completed and is now being occupied for the purpose intended. This structure, long needed to safely preserve and systematize the valuable collection of books of the institution, is a beautiful one, from an architectural standpoint, and, in point of convenience and facilites, has advantages which other noted library buildings do not possess. It cost about $180,000. *The Pennsylvanian*, the University organ, in describing the building and site, some time ago, summed up the whole as follows:

The site has been admirably chosen, what may be termed the front of the building showing to the best advantage from the high ground on both Woodland avenue and Locust street, while the distance to College Hall is short. The main entrance—very properly situated inside the College grounds—affords, in fact, the only public means of access to the library, the smaller door, on Thirty-fourth street, being intended only for the use of employés. The basement is of Nova Scotia red sandstone, the rest of the building being in brick, with terra cotta mouldings, and a free use of copper in the stack and elsewhere. The book stack, to the right, or south, is 96 by 110 feet; the main building is 140 by 80, and the tower is 95 feet high. The style is known as French Gothic, and the name of the architect, Frank Furness, of the firm of Furness, Evans & Co.

BUYING GOOD PROPERTY.

Ledgr. Nov. 19. 1891.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

THE QUESTION OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND SMALL PARKS.

Recommendations of Councils' Committee on These Subjects—The Plan for Establishing Tax Collection Districts Negatived—Councils and the Building Commission.

Councils' Committee on Municipal Government held a meeting in the Clerk's office yesterday afternoon, Mr. Uselma C. Smith presiding. The resolution presented by Mr. Miles in Select Council, requesting the committee to prepare a plan for the establishment of free public libraries, was taken up on the report of the sub-committee, to which the general committee had referred it, in favor of an appropriation of $25,000 to the Board of Education for the purpose of carrying out the scheme.

Mr. Gates suggested that the best way to carry out the idea of free public libraries was to divide the appropriation of $25,000 into five portions, each of which would establish a reading room and library in sections of the city where most needed, particularly in the manufacturing districts, and which would be easily accessible to large numbers of people. He thought it unjust to ask the Board of Education to assume this duty in connection with their other many responsibilities.

Mr. Meehan hoped that the ordinance would be adopted. He said that there was no better way than to make the Board the agent of Councils, and to see what disposition they would make of the appropriation.

Mr. Etting said that there were now at least two free public libraries that were doing good work, namely, the Apprentices' Library and the one at Eighteenth and Chestnut streets. He suggested that books be purchased, marked and put in established libraries, and said he was not unwilling that the Board of Education should work out the plan.

Mr. Monroe said in each of the school sections there was a Directors' Room that could be made available as a free public library, being used by the directors only one or two evenings in a month, and that these would take little money to fit up, and be accessible to the people of every locality.

Mr. Gates favored existing public libraries as cheaper. All of the $5000 could be expended for books, in rooms well lighted, well heated and well cared for, thus dispensing with expenditures for coal, gas, janitor's and librarian's salaries.

Finally, on Mr. Roberts's motion, the Chairman was directed to report the resolution favorably to Councils, with a request that the Finance Committee provide for the appropriation, which will be asked for in an ordinance yet to be framed.

The sub-committee on the ordinance requesting the Director of Public Safety to reconstruct the wharf on the Schuylkill, below South street, occupied by Peter Hagan, at an expense of $5000, suggested that a general system of improvement of the river frontage of the Almshouse property would probably yield a return of $25,000 per year after an expenditure of $50,000, and a resolution prevailed that the Director ask the Bureau of Surveys to make plans for such improvement.

Mr. Meehan, of the Committee on Small Parks, reported an ordinance providing for the opening of Macpherson Square, Thirty-third Ward, and Wharton Square, Twenty-sixth Ward, notifying the property owners that the same would be wanted in 30 days, and authorizing the Mayor to enter security for damages. The ordinance was approved. Mr. Meehan reported progress on a number of other small park sites under consideration.

The sub-committee on the ordinance providing for the establishment of six collection districts, where taxes and water rents could be paid quarterly, reported it negatively, on the ground that, while the measure would add to the cost of collection, it would not prove of material advantage to the taxpayer, who could, in many instances, reach the City Hall more easily than the office in his district. The negative recommendation was agreed to.

A resolution that the Committee on Municipal Government confer with the Building Commission as to the possibility of establishing closer relations between Councils and the Commission was reported back by Mr. Meehan, with the statement that nothing satisfactory could be reported, owing to the law under which the Commission was acting. The sub-committee suggested that Councils request the Legislature to so modify the law as to give the former the same right of supervision as they now have over the municipal bodies for which they make appropriations. After a jocular discussion of the subject no further action was taken

---

A FREE LIBRARY.

It may fairly be questioned if there is another city in the Union, whatever its wealth or its population, which has generally exhibited a more liberal spirit of benevolence than Philadelphia. It has, in its opulence of humanity, established almost every form of charity for every class which appeals to public sympathy. But, as a rule, it was not until late years that it seemed to appreciate the necessity of making large gifts to *free* educational institutions, and especially did it appear indifferent to the advantages of free education which public libraries, whose treasures are freely opened to all, are capable of bestowing. In almost every other direction public spirited, wise, philanthropic citizens have contributed largely, some enormously, to education, and most notably and most commendably, to free education of a practical, bread-winning sort.

One citizen of large wealth and genuine spirit of benevolence, the late George S. Pepper, devised for the foundation of a free library a sum which, it is believed, will aggregate nearly or quite a quarter of a million of dollars, and already steps have been taken to carry out his philanthropic purposes in this respect. This sum is more than double that which founded what is now the first public library in America, and probably in the world, the Public Library of Boston. Joshua Bates gave $50,000 in money and subsequently $50,000 worth of books to found that great institution. Mr. Pepper's gift is $150,000 in excess of that amount, and it affords a very good foundation on which a free library may be established in Philadelphia. Provost Pepper, of the University of Pennsylvania, who has taken great interest in the proposed library, as he does in all educational matters, states that it will require a very large sum to conduct the institution upon the plan intended, which is that of making it absolutely free to every one seeking its advantages, as that of Boston is.

If the projected library should be opened and conducted from the start upon these broad lines, this city should deal generously with regard to it, as Boston does with its free library. Boston city appropriates $70,000 annually for its maintenance, rightly regarding it as a most valuable part of the public-school system. But what the city of Boston does in this particular is very nobly supplemented by the generous gifts of private citizens. Some of the finest private libraries of Massachusetts, notably the Parker Theological Collection and the Ticknor Spanish Library, now form part of the great Public Library which Joshua Bates founded. They, in common with several other valuable special collections of books, were the gifts or bequests of their former owners. Apart from the donations of books, there have been large gifts and bequests of money, so that before the municipality of Boston contributed a dollar to the institution it was comparatively rich in both books and money. But, having been adopted as a part of the public school system, its permanent success and usefulness have been assured.

The present is not a wholly favorable time for considering municipal aid [illegible] the proposed public library of Philadelphia, but, it having been given a start by Mr. Pepper's noble bequest, it should not lack early assistance from other philanthropic citizens, and, later, having established its influence to the general satisfaction, the city could be properly asked to assist in maintaining it and in extending its sphere of public benefits.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT was made by [illegible] 705 Ulri [illegible] street w[illegible] decided a nuisance.

Mr. Pepper's Contested Will.

Attorney Dwight M. Lowery yesterday filed a certified copy of the will of Charles Rockland Pepper, who died in Paris, France, in May last, which is disputed by his relatives in this city, together with an application for letters of administration.

9110.D has a Cp. of Prichard's Circulating Library

Free Li[illegible] or a Big One.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—The public spirited gentlemen now organizing a "Free Public Library" deserve much praise for their efforts; but is it not surprising that it has escaped their attention that for the last thirty years there have been in this city four libraries of the same character as the one contemplated by them? The Philadelphia City Institute, "The Spring Garden Institute," The West Philadelphia Institute, and the Moyamensing Institute are all free public libraries.

The first named, situated at the northeast corner of Eighteenth and Chestnut streets, has a fine building which covers a lot forty-five feet by one hundred and fifty feet. Its library contains at present over eight thousand volumes. The class of books will compare with any in the city. The reading-room is free to all, and the public are allowed to take out books under certain rules and regulations as to their safe return. The library is supported by annual contributors and members, and the rents of the stores on the first floor. Why should not "The Philadelphia City Institute" be the nucleus of a large, free "public library?"

In its large hall could be placed shelves to hold two hundred and fifty thousand books. No better site for a "Public Library" can be found in the city of Philadelphia. Why not use the money already subscribed for enlarging the library of the Philadelphia City Institute? This would obviate the necessity of purchasing or renting a building, and one-half of the fund now subscribed, say forty thousand dollars, could be used for the purchase of books, and the other half invested and the interest used in paying the necessary expenses of keeping the library open. Let the gentlemen who are so anxious for a large "Free Public Library" visit the Philadelphia City Institute, and they will find their building already erected, and nothing needed but more books and a little more income to give them their heart's desire.

S. HENRY NORRIS.

Improvements at the Mercantile Library.—Work has been begun on the improvements in the Mercantile Library building authorized by the Directors of the Library Company at their June meeting. The principal improvement will be the rearrangement of the reading rooms at the western end of the building on the ground floor. According to the present arrangement about 76 feet of the end of the room is divided by a low partition into reading rooms, one for men and the other for ladies.

The room for the ladies was not considered private enough to be agreeable, and the number of men who used their reading room was largely in excess of the women who used their room. It was accordingly determined to enlarge the men's room and make that for the ladies about half its former size. The ladies' room will be handsomely furnished and carpeted and provided with magazines and newspapers in which women are specially interested. The men's reading room will be divided by a railing into two parts, one of which will be for the exclusive use of stockholders and the other for the general public. The entrance hall and vestibule will also be renovated, and additional shelves will be placed in the gallery. The improvements will cost about $2000.

IT IS WELCOME NEWS to hear that the reading [illegible] the Mercantile Library are to be re[illegible] and improved. They should be put in most convenient and inviting form. But the great thing needed is the endowment of the Mercantile, and the placing of it on a footing that will give to Philadelphia the great free library and reading room it should have. There is the foundation upon which some of our benevolent men have a [illegible] opportunity to build.

The Mercantile's Management.

In speaking of the decline of the patronage of the Mercantile Library, and the effort to secure ladies on the Directorate, President T. Morris Perot says:—

"We have no objection to ladies on the Board of Management if they desire to come in. The circular says I have practically had control of the institution during its decline from a membership of 12,000 to 4,000 stockholders. In 1860, the year prior to my being elected President of the Board of Managers, the receipt from members was $3,866·25. In 1875 it had been raised to $34,210. Since then it has decreased, not because of mismanagement, but simply suffered, as the large libraries of other cities, such as the Mercantile of New York, and the Mercantile of Baltimore, have, from cheap literature. In 1861 the number of books in our library was 21,500. The volumes now number over 152,000. Perhaps I may mention as another example of 'the decline' that we have purchased, paid for, and now hold a property valued at half a million dollars. Our membership in 1860 was 2,165, in 1875 it was 10,401. We have the largest newspaper reading-room in the world, and nothing is left undone that can add to the comfort or convenience of our patrons. I have been for several days in consultation with the gentlemen having the matter of establishing a free library in hand, and hope soon to come to some conclusion with them in regard to the matter."

A Mistake, Not a Crime.

Mercantile Library Meeting.

The sixtieth annual meeting of the Mercantile Library Company was held yesterday, and Directors were nominated to be elected on February 20, as follows: Oliver Evans, Richard Woods, Nathaniel E. Janney, Charles H. Hart, Richard Baines and T. Morris Perot. The report of the Directors shows that the receipts for 1882 amounted to $37,983.97, and the expenses $38,402.73, among the latter being $14,000 for investment. Members' dues amounted to $18,186.60, and fines and extra books issued brought in $2099.10. During the year 2788 new books were added and 1375 retired, making the total number now on the shelves 144,548. The total number of books issued was 138,996, and the visits to the reading room numbered 320,6[illegible] There are 523 periodicals.

A Free Public Library.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—As the interest of our citizens has been freshly aroused in connection with an effort to supply so great a need in Philadelphia, it may be well to remind the readers of the PUBLIC LEDGER that there is, and has been for a dozen years or more, an excellent free public library in an important section of our city—Germantown.

There, in a central position on Main ave., in a sightly stone building, is the library supported for public use by the Society of Friends. It is open day and evening (except on the first day of the week) to all comers, and any reputable person may, on registering his or her name, have the privilege of taking out books just as in a subscription library.

This library contains over 11,000 volumes, in every department of literature and science, *except fiction*. Experience has shown its conductors that in the absence of exciting novels, the tastes even of working men and women can be directed and drawn towards other reading with great and manifest advantage.

By the careful use of a fund in their hands the managers of this library are constantly adding to the number of its books, over 650 volumes being purchased for it last year. Sixty periodicals, including some in foreign languages, are on its tables and shelves. This increase involves an approaching necessity for enlargement of the building, towards which further contributions of money will be necessary. While those in charge of it solicit no one (at least outside of their own membership) for aid for this purpose, it is not likely that such, if proffered, would be declined. The institution is one well deserving of encouragement and extension.

H. HARTSHORNE.

[The LEDGER called attention to the Germantown Library system a few days ago, but not in detail so obligingly furnished by Dr. Hartshorne.]

Ledger 2/23/84

"Apprentices' Library," or [illegible] Library

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—The history of the "Apprentice Library" is highly appreciated by thousands of men and women who have partaken of its benefits in the loan of good books to be taken to their homes for perusal and study. The practical work of it is not confined to the *indentured* boys and girls; its privileges are free to all readers seeking knowledge. A "Free Library for the People" is the great *desideratum* now, and the Board of Directors of the Apprentices' Library, as well as the members and its numerous friends, are feeling their way to make it such. The City of Philadelphia, with a population of 1,000,000 people, largely engaged in mechanical, manufacturing and industrial pursuits, should have a "Free Library" co-extensive with all its other great and benevolent institutions provided for the physical condition of its people; a library placed under judicious protection, dedicated to religion and literature for every votary in search of knowledge—"the nourishment of the soul," or the "medicine of the mind." Larger facilities in a temple of learning indeed, centrally located, and all the appliances for practical educational purposes, where lectures in science, the arts and literature could be given, are demanded. Books are the great patrons of learning; they and a comfortable place to read in are not found in the homes of thousands of our youth. It is proposed to furnish a place for this class, rendering it a resort for the many who are drawn to the skating rinks, bicycle and boat clubs and dime museums, because of their easy access and seductive influences upon the young men, who have leisure and nowhere else to pass their evenings.

There are but a limited number of boys and girls *indentured* to masters now. The indenturing system of youth until they arrive at their majority in years, with the provisions made for their care in instruction in a trade, or profession, their morals and physical comforts, has passed away. No responsibility is assumed for the protection of young learners; so much pay for so much work, is the prevailing custom now; the boys and girls provide their own homes, either with their parents or friends, and work their ten hours for small pay to learn a trade or profession, a period of time to them more important than any other in their future lives.

These early experiences are beset with peculiar trials and temptations. Liberal means are offered to them for an education under the common school system, but few can go longer to school than from six to twelve years of age. They leave the grammar school to seek a livelihood; thus early is the battle of life commenced. Every protection and care of them in moral and intelligent culture should surround them.

The city has donated millions of money for public buildings, parks, police stations, parades, &c., and why not a few hundred thousand dollars for a free library?

So early as the fifth century there were twenty-nine public libraries in Rome; the finest one, belonging to Bishop Hippo, was destroyed by the Vandals.

The libraries of Philadelphia are nearly all private, and surrounded by rules and subscriptions for memberships, &c., that debar the many from the use of the books moulding upon the shelves. No greater monument can embellish the greatness of the City of Brotherly Love than the erection of a temple for a free library, that shall surpass the best days of Greece and Rome. The advancement since their days of greatness is immeasurable in the art of printing and making of books. The bequeathing of private libraries, unused, to a vast treasury for use, would soon increase a library of almost unlimited number of volumes.

B——N.

THE SUIT BROUGHT by the heirs of Samuel Wetherill, to recover the ground on which the Apprentices' Library stands, presents an interesting question of law, the decision upon which will be looked for with great interest. The Apprentices' Library has fortunately raised up for itself an army of friends who, whatever may be the result of the suit, will see that its good work is continued. It might, indeed, be for the benefit of that institution and of the public if, by some action arousing public sympathy, it should have to seek new quarters with larger room, not only for its library, but for that larger sphere of usefulness it may be made to occupy.

Free Libraries.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—In an article in the LEDGER Supplement of Monday, headed "The Apprentices' Library," the writer, "N.," says: "With the exception of the Friends' Library of Germantown, it (the Apprentices' Library) is the only free library in this large city." "N," evidently does not read the newspapers. In 1852, John and William Welsh, Eli K. Price, Israel Morris, Jacob Jones, and other public spirited men organized four public free libraries, viz.: Philadelphia City Institute, the Spring Garden Institute, the West Philadelphia Institute, and the Moyamensing Institute, all of which are doing good work in furnishing free libraries to the public. Annually a synopsis of their reports appears in the newspapers. These free libraries are supported by voluntary contributions of citizens who, in the Philadelphia City Institute, have the privilege of taking books from the library. All other persons have the same privilege, upon furnishing the librarian with a satisfactory guarantee for the return of the books loaned. The use of the books in the libraries is free to all.

S. H. N.

—The Charter [illegible] Library, the oldest social and literary organization in Germantown, has elected the following officers: President, George E. Bevan; Vice President, Charles F. Snyder; Financial Secretary, John P. Osborne; Corresponding Secretary, Jacob Keyser; Treasurer, Thomas Riley.

A Movement to Establish a Free Public Library.—A movement has been started by a number of prominent citizens of Philadelphia to establish here a Free Public Library. The preliminary steps were taken nearly two years ago, and it is stated that already over $60,000 have been promised contingent to the raising of the first $100,000; the minimum sum which has been considered requisite for the establishment of such a library being $250,000, and over $10,000 of the above promised amount being actually paid, invested and drawing interest.

The following gentlemen are named as the Trustees of this fund: Henry C. Gibson, Edwin N. Benson, Thomas Dolan, Joseph Wharton, Charles Platt, Hamilton Disston, John Baird, J. M. DaCosta, M. D., J. B. Lippincott, Alexander Biddle, William Sellers, Fairman Rogers, George Burnham, John H. Michener, William Henry Rawle, William M. Singerly, William A. Platt and Arthur Biddle. When the fund is completed it is proposed to locate the library between Broad and Twenty-second streets, Filbert and Green streets.

Sedge 2/13/82

See Record for Jan 12 Dec 1886 for Mercantile Libr.

THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY.

Complaints That Are Worthy the Attention of the Management.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

As your paper has done much towards the reform of various abuses in our city, I have long hoped you would take up the matter of the mismanagement of the Mercantile Library, which has been and is a source of universal complaint. Many of the most respectable members, who would have liked to remain habitues of the place, have been driven away by the rudeness of the employes and other annoyances to which every patron there is subjected. The books on the shelves are numbered and classified by one method, while the catalogues are made out by another, so that the two never agree, and it is utterly impossible for a subscriber to search intelligently for any volume especially desired. The boys employed to take this matter off the hands of stockholders, who would much prefer to wait on themselves in this case, are most of them either careless, ignorant, incapable or all three. Many of the books are torn and defaced and too soiled to be handled with any pleasure, and it is not infrequent to find one or more volumes of a book lost. Many of the most desirable books in the catalogues have long been missing in the library, and they ought either to be replaced or their names removed. The supply of new books is never equal to the demand, and they are handed from friend to friend until they cease to be new; and the number of copies of old standard works is entirely inadequate to the wants of the readers. In the matter of fines they are notoriously mean, unequaled by any library in New York, Boston or our own city.

If the Mercantile Library was a poor corporation, struggling in its infancy for a precarious foothold, the matter would be different, and stockholders might hope that these defects would be corrected by its growth; but when a corporation boasts of having 13,000 subscribers, paying a heavier taxation than is charged by any circulating library in the city, the Philadelphia alone excepted, the public have a right to demand that these abuses be corrected.

READER.

McClure's Daily Times Oct 1 '82

Free Law Library to be Opened To-day.—This morning the Free Law Library, provision for the establishment and maintenance of which was made in the will of the late Lucas Hirst, Esq., will be thrown open for the use, free of charge, of lawyers and students at law. The library occupies two rooms on the first floor of No. 629 Walnut street, and is neatly furnished with oak bookcases and desks. The librarian is S. Mallet Prevost, Esq., and he states that the new library starts with 2022 volumes and 25 law periodicals, and that 200 more volumes will shortly be put upon the shelves. The income from Mr. Hirst's estate for library purposes is ample for a large increase in the number of books. Of English law books they have the Early English Reports, House of Lords Reports, Chancery Reports, and the Common Law, Exchequer and Law Reports. The United States books include all of the Federal Reports, the Circuit and District Court Reports, all of the laws of Pennsylvania and the decisions of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The New York Reports are practically complete, and there are reports from Ohio, New Jersey and Massachusetts. In addition, there are 300 text books. The library opens at 9 A. M. and closes at 5 P. M.

4/3/85

The Miniature Public Library.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—I wonder if your readers have heard of the Children's Library which has been started in St. Mary street? Miss Wharton and three other ladies took a room there and have a library of about two hundred books, and a fair proportion in words of one syllable. I must correct myself. They had two hundred, but recently about one hundred were taken bodily, *not by the children*. The loss has not discouraged them and they mean to go on. The library is open on Saturday morning for about two hours. The annual tax is five cents, and there are fines for keeping a book out longer than a week—two cents, I think that is. There were eighty names on the roll, and the average "weekly" attendance was fifty.

I do not know when any charity has so touched and interested me as this. I wouldn't like to own up how late I sat up one night last Christmas to read Laboulaye's Fairy Tales, I bought for one of my small nieces. Think of bringing fairy land to these St. Mary street children. If I were a moralist I suppose I might say something of the "little leaven" for good such a library would be, and its influence as a following up of the kindergartens in cultivating healthful tastes for reading and enjoyment. I am content with thinking of the pleasant delight it must give to these small people who have so little brightness in their lives. That it is appreciated the number of "shareholders" would show. The books are used, too; for Miss Wharton tells me one of the duties of the committee is to keep the books in repair, and the task is not a light one. I. W.

Mechanics' Library Election.

The Mechanics' Institute Library and Free Reading Room, of Southwark, at its annual meeting on Thursday elected [illegible] President; R. C. Floyd, Vice President; J. W. McElwee, Secretary; William Harkness, Jr., Treasurer, and the following Directors: Thomas Beach, William H. Bowen, Charles H. Clark, Thomas Fields, Edward T. Hoe, John A. Rowan, J. S. Smyth and John Trickett. The receipts for the year were $[illegible], and the expenses, $1208.81. The membership is now 448—an increase of 48 for the year, while 15,790 books were loaned.

JANUARY 20, 1883.

SOME days since attention was directed in the columns of THE RECORD to the improvements in the old and valued public library at the corner of Fifth and Arch streets. There are 20,000 volumes in this library, and no bad books among them, which are free to the use of both sexes. The library is kept open every week-day except Saturday from 3 to 9 P. M.; on Saturday it is closed at 7 P. M. The free reading-room is open every week-day from 2 to 9.30 P. M. Possibly there is no institution in Philadelphia with the means at its command that does more good than this free library. We commend it to the support of the reading public and to the generosity of wealthy persons who may wish to further enlarge its capacity for usefulness.

[illegible]rosperity for the Athenæum.

[illegible] presided over the annual [illegible] of the stockholders of the Athenæum, [illegible] was held yesterday. During the past [illegible] 333 volumes were added to the library of the institution. An election for five Directors to serve for three years resulted in the choice of P. Pemberton Morris, Richard L. Ashhurst, Nathaniel Burt, Charles H. Hutchinson and William G. Thomas, who, with Edward L. Law, President; Richard R. Montgomery, Vice President; S. Weir Lewis, Treasurer; Charles Willing, F. Mortimer Lewis, William [illegible] Drayton, Thomas R. Woodhouse, William Wells, John [illegible]rcer and Richard L. Cadwalader, constitute the Board of Directors.

A Free [illegible] in [illegible]hiladelphia.

For the Public Ledger.

MR. EDITOR:—In the Supplement of the 17th, in answer to a correspondent, E. B. T., it is stated that there is no absolutely free library in Philadelphia. I should think the library near the corner of Main and Coulter streets, Germantown, an exception. Any one, by representing himself to be a resident of Germantown, and giving his name and address, may take out a book. Perhaps it was not mentioned on account of its small size—twelve or fourteen thousand volumes. The average daily number of visitors the past year was more than 100, which is said to be more in proportion to the number of volumes than at any other public library in the country. The annual percentage of lost books is very small, less than that of the great Boston library. I have forgotten the figures. L. B.

Safety of Buildi[illegible]

Methodist Historical Society.—The Historical Society of the Philadelphia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church yesterday filed an application for a charter in Court of Common Pleas No. 1. The purposes of the society are "to conserve the history of Methodism, especially within the bounds of the Philadelphia Annual Conference, to form a library of Methodist literature, to collect books, pamphlets, manuscripts, medals, portraits and articles of value to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to establish a bureau of statistics." The corporators are John S. Janes McConnell, William Swindells, S. W. Thomas, Job Simmons and Wm. M. Ridgway.

Notice of Prichard's circulating Library in "Independent Gazetteer" (3rd ?) Mch. 6, 1790.
also in Freeman's Journal Jan 2, 1782 May 15, 1782

A Free Library.

Arthur Biddle and William A. Platt are credited with originating a plan for the establishment of a free popular and scientific library which is now assuming definite shape. Articles of agreement, to which the names of prominent subscribers are appended, have been drawn up by George W. Biddle and William Henry Rawle. The government of the institution is vested in the following Trustees, who represent the commercial and professional interests of the city:—Henry C. Gibson, Edwin N. Benson, Thomas Dolan, Joseph Wharton, Charles Platt, Hamilton Disston, John Baird, J. M. Da Costa, M. D., J. B. Lippincott, Alexander Biddle, William Sellers, Fairman Rogers, George Burnham, John H. Michener, William Henry Rawle, William M. Singerly, William A. Platt, and Arthur Biddle. The cost of membership in the library association will be $100, the payment of which entitles the member to a vote for the election of Trustees. The building will be on Broad street, near the City Hall. It is intended to raise $250,000. Of this amount $60,000 has already been subscribed. Edwin N. Benson has given $5,000.

A British Columbia News Item.

From the Victoria (B. C.) Standard.

There are no public libraries in Philadelphia.

[Leeds] – the great mystery of Fox craft discovered ... which are now to be seen in the Library at Burlington, New Jersey ... 1705

See Sabin's dict.

—"—

Charter, Laws &c of Union Lib. Co. of Hatborough, 1788.

See Sabin's dict. No. 30832.

—"—

Read 11/10/83

Edward Reed, a young man, who said he resided at 1504 Passyunk avenue, was arrested at the Mercantile Library yesterday upon the charge of defacing a newspaper. Magistrate Thompson held him under $400 bail.

Rachel Kessler, 3 years old [illegible]

Ledger 1885

ASKING FOR LIBRARY ROOM IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The request of the Central Labor Union, which has formed a committee to wait upon the Board of Education, reveals a want that is beginning to be felt of more free reading rooms, which shall be open at night for working people. The Philadelphia Library, which is not designed to be either aristocratic or exclusive, and is open to every decent citizen of Philadelphia to read in free of charge from 9 o'clock in the morning to 6 P. M., cannot, of couse, be of any use to working people, excepting those who are out of work. The class that has enforced idleness should know of the free reading room on Locust street, above Thirteenth, as well as the Ridgway (branch) library on South Broad street. But the main body of workers consider themselves fortunate in having no time in the day to go to a reading room. They should have provision for their evenings. While it does not seem that the founding of so many small libraries in the public school buildings to be used as night reading rooms would be quite practicable, there is no reason at all why some of the school rooms, during vacation, should not be used as newspaper reading rooms, day and evening. It is a great waste while such a large proportion of the people are compelled to turn out to the streets for fresh air and amusement at night; it always seems a waste that cool, large buildings, such as the lecture rooms and school rooms of churches and the public schools, should stand tightly closed for all uses. A little thoughtfulness on the part of church authorities would particularly extend the benefits of their large cool apartments, and so of the school rooms likewise. The library facilities of the city might be made to reach many thousands more than at present could those that are free by their charter find themselves able to keep open halls at night.

Ledger July 1885

Complaints About the Mercantile Library.

[FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

MR. EDITOR:—In your issue of Wednesday last, I find an extract from the annual report of the President of the Mercantile Library, in which that officer expresses his surprise at the falling off in the membership of the institution, and declares himself unable to account for the decline in the library's popularity. Will you permit me, as a reader and frequenter of the library for many years, to call attention to two features which, in my opinion, furnish at least a partial explanation for the present unfortunate status of the library. Let me add that I do this in a kindly, not in a fault-finding spirit, and that my strictures are prompted by the earnest desire and hope that an institution which has been of such great service in the past might, by taking proper measures and by an energetic policy, again regain the hold it formerly had upon the reading public of Philadelphia.

In the first place, I regard the cheerlessness of the reading rooms and the general dreary aspect which the interior of the library presents as an important factor in accounting for its decline. A more uninviting spot for the steady reader and one less suited for purposes of reading can hardly be imagined. The light is insufficient at daytime and miserable at night. What improvements have been made in past years have all been in the direction of increasing the ugliness and coldness of the vast ground floor. A library, and more particularly a reading room—whether for books or newspapers—must be cosy, cheerful, attractive, just as one's home ought to be made a place where we like to be. In addition to this, everything about the library bears a neglected air, the walls, the ceiling, the floor, the cases and even the books look dirty and shabby, all of which becomes the more noticeable when we consider how entirely different things look, for instance, at the Philadelphia Library. Time was when the Mercantile Library belonged to the "sights" of the city, which was pointed to with just pride. All then was life; to-day everything about it seems to whisper "I am dying—dying." Things are certainly not in so bad a state as a visitor would naturally conclude from the impression which the interior makes upon him, but to appear worse than you are is at times an even greater misfortune than to be worse. Secondly, the lack of courtesy on the part of the attendants, which has for some years been a standing complaint, I regard as a very important factor in accounting for the decline in the library's popularity. Instead of straining every effort to accommodate the readers and subscribers, the principle of the employés at the library, from the call boy to the female assistants, seems to be to place as many obstacles in the road of their clients as possible. An exception must be made, however, in favor of the Chief Librarian, who is invariably obliging, and from whom one is always sure to receive a kindly reply to inquiries. But the amiable disposition of the venerable and able chief makes the conduct of his subordinates stand out in all the stronger contrast, and it is certainly strange that his example should be so utterly lost upon them. Upon entering one is almost sure to be molested by the gruff and ill-mannered men or by one of the ungentlemanly boys with the question, "Are you a member?" accompanied by a suspicious look, which makes you wonder whether you really present the appearance of one who has just escaped from Moyamensing. It ought, surely, not be a difficult matter for these doorkeepers to remember faces that they are in the habit of seeing daily, and it is a gross stupidity on their part to be persistently in doubt as to who are or are not shareholders. * * * The ladies at the desks are not a whit better. * * *

The call-boy almost invariably grumbles when asked to assist in finding a book, or when a request for back numbers of a magazine is made. * * * * Surely these are matters which must exhaust the patience of the public and make them disgusted with the whole library. There are other points that might be mentioned, such as the darkness that reigns supreme in the galleries in the evening, which makes it impossible to find a book, and the general lack of such accommodations as to-day are considered indispensable features of every well-equipped library. Something might be said, too, as to the principle upon which the purchases are made, but enough has been said to convince every one, it seems to me, that the causes for the decline are to be sought, not "in the heavens above nor in the waters beneath," but that they lie very, very near. I firmly believe that a strong effort made to remedy existing evils will be productive of good results. A WELL WISHER.

The Mount Airy Free Library.

A deed of trust for the land, building and an endowment of $25,000 for the Mount Airy Memorial Free Library has been deposited in the Fidelity Trust and Safe Deposit Company by Mrs. Charlotte Bostwick, who furnished the funds for the building. The officers and Board of Managers are: President, Rev. S. C. Hill; secretary and treasurer, Miss L. D. Lovett; Board of Managers, Rev. S. C. Hill, Rev. W. P. White, Dr. Frank W. Thomas, George C. Garrett, Edward Cooper, Mrs. Charlotte Bostwick, Miss L. D. Lovett, Mrs. Samuel Potter, Miss L. Miller. The building, a neat, attractive structure of Germantown stone, was erected about a year ago.

over 70 years

THE PHILADELPHIA CITY INSTITUTE.

Annual Report of the Board of Managers —Enlargement of the Library.

The 37th annual report of the Managers of the Philadelphia City Institute, at the north east corner of Eighteenth and Chestnut streets, has been published. During the year the library was removed from its old quarters in the rear of the Institute to the large lecture room on Chestnut street. The managers acknowledge the receipt of a donation of $250 from the Vice President, George Taber, to assist in paying off the ground rent; also, $100 from the Young Men's Institute, for books; also, $2000 from the managers of the Charity Ball, to buy books and bookcases.

During the ten months the library was open the readers and visitors numbered 26,368, an average of 94 a day. The library now contains 10,974 volumes, 890 being added during the year. The Treasurer's report shows that the balance from last year and receipts from rents, donations and contributions amounted to $5161 55, and the expenditures $4797 14.

The following managers were elected to serve four years: S. Henry Norris, Wm. Hill, Thomas Williams, Jr., J. Randall Williams, Frank W. Muzzey. Fifteen other managers hold over. Levi Knowles was elected President; George Taber and Wm. Hill, Vice Presidents; S. Henry Norris, Treasurer, and Frank W. Muzzey, Secretary.

A Bookkeeper's Alleged Peculations.

Vine

A Foundation for a Great Free Library.

[FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

MR. EDITOR:—While far away from my native city, I still have some of her bounty, and so enjoy the LEDGER, which is regularly sent me from my home.

For the last two Saturdays I have been interested in correspondence in relation to the Mercantile Library, and have at last concluded to add my word also in favor of carrying out a suggestion made by one of your correspondents, favoring the changing of this cherished resort of students into a public library. When in Philadelphia I have always felt irritated and hampered in my work by the fact that we have no public library. I know we have many which bear and no doubt deserve the name, as the Apprentices' Library, the City Institute and many others, but those named are too small and, besides, do not contain a sufficient number of reference books to satisfy the demands of students. The Philadelphia Library is admirably equipped so far as books are concerned, but it has one drawback—books can only be taken home by stockholders and subscribers, and, unfortunately, there will always be a "great majority" who cannot be stockholders or even pay a yearly subscription.

Now why cannot Philadelphia have a library which would compare favorably with the Boston Public Library, free in every sense, to every man, rich or poor, citizen or sojourner, within the gates? I came to Boston a perfect stranger, but within a week a property holder had signed my application, and in two weeks' time I was privileged to draw books from the library and carry them to my own sanctum. Reading rooms are a great boon, but there often

---

A VALUED GIFT.

A Rare Book to be Presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences this Evening.

This evening what is regarded by the members as the most valuable addition that the Academy of Natural Sciences has received for many years, will be presented on behalf of several gentlemen of this city, in a copy of the "Ferns of the Wilkes Exploring Expedition." On the return of that famous expedition, the materials in the different branches of science were given to several specialists to work up. The ferns collected embraced a very large number of species, especially from the Sandwich Islands. These were committed to the charge of William D. Breckenridge, one of the botanists of the expedition, and eminent in the knowledge of this class of plants. The work was barely completed when the disastrous burning of the Smithsonian Institution occurred, consuming the edition as well as the lithographic plates. A little before the fire, however, a few copies were distributed, one to the author and a few to others who had aided in the preparation of the work. These few copies are all that exist, and being in great demand for scientific institutions, always command very high prices. The gentlemen who secured the copy for the Academy paid $100 for it, and the members of the Academy feel proud that their library possesses this rare treasure.

The donors of the book are Mr. C. W. Littell, Dr. George Strawbridge, Mr. Charles W. Henry, Mr. H. H. Houston, Professor Thomas Meehan, Mr. Thomas C. Stokes, Francis I. Gowen, Esq.

---

great DESCENDANT.

The Mercantile Library.

[FOR THE PUBLIC PEDGER.]

MR. EDITOR:—I agree with many of the opinions expressed by "A Well Wisher," with reference to the Mercantile Library, in your columns of Saturday last. It is incumbent on me, however, to state that I have always found the female employés of that institution courteous and obliging, my experience having been quite different from that of "A Well Wisher." As to the funereal gloom of the rooms, your correspondent is quite right, and on that ground I could excuse any slight incivility on the part of the attendants. No one could remain long amid such surroundings and retain a cheerful disposition. Momus himself would become saturnine in a short time. "Let all who enter here leave hope behind" might well be inscribed on the portals.

But a question of grave importance, and one worthy of your space and forbearance with my intrusion, is the state of the books. The rarer specimens are in wretched condition. It is true that they have not lost their plates, as is the case with many of the illustrated works downstairs, and that they possess the [illegible] of being separated from their fellows by an iron grating and door, called by courtesy the "locked cases," but that is the only advantage they enjoy, and a doubtful one it is, for since they are less frequently handled, and seldom carried out of their dismal abode, they simply stand there in the gloom, while the dust and gaslight hasten their decay.

We can view with equanimity a copy of "She" or "East Lynne" in dirty binding, dog-eared and thumb-marked, for a dime will replace either. But when we see Dibdin's sumptuous folios, the delight of the bibliographer, a "Treacle" Bible, or Benjamin Franklin's masterpiece of printing, "Cato Major," dust covered and neglected, their shabby jackets crumbling to decay, we must at least sound an alarm. These and their companions in the locked cases are worthy of the best treatment; clean shelves within glass are none too good for 'em. This is not a fancy picture, but one that your readers may see at any hour by going to the library. The books have remained in this condition for years, and that they have not entirely gone to ruin is due, in my opinion, to the excellence of the work done in the days when books were not run off by the thousand in a few hours.

I have nothing to say against the worthy gentlemen composing the directory and management of the institution. The Librarian, I believe, does all in his power with the means at his command. The state of affairs does not indicate that there are any book-lovers in the Board. The gentlemen may have had good reasons for permitting the books to decay. A false idea of economy may have dictated the saving the cost of glass doors for the shelves, but false economy it has surely proven itself to be, in the result that the best books are nearly ruined by their exposure.

The system of open shelves seems objectionable unless a sufficient force of attendants is employed to protect the books, watch over them, dust them, and, in short, preserve them.

The present Directory should, having served their fellow shareholders so long, give place to a new Board, composed of the grumblers, if needs be. Having given the discontented shareholders a chance to inaugurate the reforms which they have so often proposed, in the event of their failure to build up the library there would seem to be only one resource, and that is, to dispose of the library as an entirety (if it could be done) to the city for a moderate sum. There is the nucleus of a great public library there; the location is a good one, and with the necessary alterations to transform it into a cheerful resort of the studious, it might serve one of the city's greatest needs. But to give it success under its present organization there must be a revolution, which should begin at the top. The attendants, and their good or bad manners, are not the cause of the institution's decline.

"A BIBLIOPHILE."

A Lady's Protest.

[FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

MR. EDITOR:—As a lady member, "reader and frequenter of the Mercantile Library" for quite as many years, I dare say, as your correspondent, "Well Wisher," of last Saturday's issue, I would like to protest against the very unjust accusation of discourtesy and ill manners upon the part of "female assistants" at that institution.

I have found them, on the contrary, in twenty years' experience of their "ways and manners," in every regard obliging, polite and pleasant, and have noticed, too, that, in their dress and deportment, they have been unexceptionally free from everything unbecoming the title of ladies.

As for the call boys, they are boys, and it is true they are sometimes inattentive and mischievous, but in all my experience I have never received an uncivil word or look from any one of them, and I do not doubt but that I have "bothered" and "interfered" with their "play and plans" very often in my demands for "locked" books, etc.

As to "Well Wisher's" complaint in regard to light, ventilation and unattractiveness in the Mercantile Library, there is much to indorse, but it strikes me that the ill manners and discourtesy he complains of are a "reflected light."

A LADY MEMBER.

Garbage and Street Sweepings.

PUBLIC LEDGER.]

Philadelphia, Saturday, Jan. 5, 1889.

THE HIRST FREE LAW LIBRARY IN THE DREXEL BUILDING.

The late Lucas Hirst, like many another founder of a good institution, builded better than he knew, when he gave his estate for a separate and exclusive law library for the use of students and lawyers free of charge. Under the careful and watchful arrangement of the Fidelity Company as trustees, the Hirst Free Law Library was opened in April, 1885, in the old home and office of Mr. Hirst, at 629 Walnut street. In spite of additions and alterations, it was soon found that these quarters were neither large nor convenient enough for the proper use and enjoyment of the Library. The nucleus was the purchase of a portion of the library of the late Henry Baldwin, Esq., and it has grown by gifts and purchases until now its catalogue, prepared by Mr. Augustus J. Rudderow, when he was the Librarian in charge, has grown into a pamphlet of nearly 70 pages, including the most useful reports and text books needed by the working lawyer for daily reference. Thanks to the wise and generous offer of Mr. A. J. Drexel, the Hirst Library is now established in the splendid new Drexel Building, at Fifth and Chestnut streets, where it has secured quarters for the next generation, for its lease, at an almost nominal rent, is made for 26 years and upwards. Naturally, access to such a library has added to the other attractions of the Drexel Building, and the lawyers, law firms and law students now established there will no doubt use it, and, in turn, make its advantages known, as well as help to invite additions to its shelves and to the number of those who benefit by it. The custom of bringing libraries home to those who need them is one of the marked features of our own time. In New York the Equitable Building is made specially attractive to lawyers as tenants by the large library put at their service. The Girard Trust Building, at Broad and Chestnut streets, will, when completed, house the University Law School and its library, largely increased by the gift of the memorial of the late George Biddle by his family, the library of the late Hon. Benjamin H. Brewster, having been bought and presented to the University to perpetuate Mr. George Biddle's pre-eminent promise in his profession, so sadly broken by his untimely and regretted death. Thus the example set by Mr. Drexel in giving the Hirst Free Law Library a home is in keeping with his thoughtful care and provision for those of the legal profession who are tenants in his great building. It has the advantage of a secured future in its new rooms.

The library now contains nearly 4000 volumes, and is steadily growing in the right direction by the addition of new works, paper books and other useful contributions and purchases. The average attendance daily, more than 50, is increasing, as the comforts and attraction of its new location are becoming better known. The Fidelity Company is managing its trust with characteristic care, and the current income, something over $3500, is likely to be increased by the rent of its old quarters, while on the expiration of some annuities, the library can fairly count on so much even as $5000 a year—not a very great income, but, in view of the limit of its purchases to law books, quite enough to keep it fairly abreast of all that is most useful for the professional student and practitioner. The present librarian, Henry B. Bartow, Esq., is doing his best to make the Hirst Free Law Library answer fully to the wishes of its founder and to the needs of his fellow-members of the Bar. Under his efficient care since it opened its rooms in the Drexel Building, early last November, it has grown steadily in general favor and in its means of supplying the demand on its shelves and desks.

---

ver

nd street,

The Loyal Legion Library.

Some of the architects are preparing preliminary sketches of a proposed building, to be located in this city, suitable for a "War Library and Museum" of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. It has been asked that the plans shall include a structure that will provide meeting and banquet halls for the Commandery of the State and the Commandery in Chief, in addition to space for the library and museum. A building of this kind would be an important headquarters for military men, and some handsome architectural designs are looked for as a result of the competition.

SOLD FOR THE HEIRS.

man & Co.

"J. Riddle's circulating Library
Shakespear Head. No 71 S 8th St.
opposite to Benson" early Phila City have seen ticket,
with head of Shakspeare: shortly after 1800?

HIRST FREE LAW LIBRARY

To Open on the Ninth Floor of the Drexel Building To-Day.

The Hirst Free L[illegible] Library, established under the provisions of the will of the late Lucas Hirst, Esq., has been removed from 629 Walnut street to the Drexel Building, and is to be opened to the public to-day. Mr. Hirst, who died in the year 1882, by his will gave his entire estate, amounting to $100,000, to the Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, in trust, after paying annuities to his brothers and sisters, to establish a law library for the use of students and members of the Bar, which should be entirely independent of and distinct from the Library of the Law Association. In April, 1885, the Trustees first opened the Library at 629 Walnut street, in the same building in which Mr. Hirst in his lifetime had had his offices. In the summer of 1887, Mr. A. J. Drexel, who was then about commencing the erection of the Drexel Building, made a proposition to the Fid[illegible] Company, by which he was to rent the room in his building for the Library at one dollar per annum for a period of 25 years. This would benefit the Library, as it would thereby obtain much better quarters than in its then location and would also increase its income by the rent of its old house. The Trustees submitted the matter to the Orphans' Court, and, by its decree, were authorized to accept Mr. Drexel's generous proposition; and, as above stated, in accordance therewith, the Library has been moved into the Drexel Building. The rooms occupied by it are on the ninth floor at the southeast corner of Library street and Custom House place. They cover a ground floor space of 52x36 feet, are splendidly lighted by seven large windows on three sides of the room and are most favorably adapted for library purposes. Four elevators, which carry the lawyer or student from the first to the ninth floor in nine seconds, obviate the objection which so high an elevation would otherwise be to the situation of the Library. Both gas and electric lights are now or shortly will be used. The Library will be very convenient, not only for the occupants of the Drexel Building, but also for those of the Bullitt Building, Brown Building and other large buildings now erected or in course of erection in the immediate neighborhood. There are about 3800 volumes now upon the shelves, making a fair working library for the student practicing lawyer, and the num[illegible] will be from time to time [illegible] surplus i[illegible] accumula[illegible] is Hen[illegible] [illegible]artow, E[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] bar.

THE FIGHT ON AGAIN

BITTER STRUGGLE FOR FREE LIBRARY MONEY.

Directors of the New Institution Have Decided to Collect $1,000,000.

It was announced on good authority yesterday that the recently organized Free Library of Philadelphia will have to fight in the Supreme Court for its possession of the $250,000 legacy of the late George S. Pepper. G. Heide Norris, attorney for the City Institute, said he had decided to take the question before the Orphans' Court in bank, and, if necessary, up to the Court of last resort.

This will delay free library plans for a time, but it is likely that at a meeting of the Board of Directors on Friday next very definite steps will be taken toward putting the project on its feet. The Directors have already about decided to collect $1,000,000 before purchasing a site and beginning construction.

"Our fund is entirely too small to warrant our beginning operations," said a Director, "and I do not think any steps will be taken until $1,000,000 is raised. The amount now in hand is just about one-fourth what we need. We expect to accumulate a larger fund from legacies, appropriations from the Legislature and subscriptions from members.

"As regards a site for our building," he concluded, "I consider Chestnut street out of the question. Ground there is entirely too costly for our purpose, while Broad street real estate is equally expensive, unless we purchase in the southern section of the city, which step is inadvisable. Our best plan will be to build upon a side street as near Broad and Chestnut streets as possible. A library does not require so prominent a site that ground selling at thousands of dollars per foot must be utilized."

Dr. Isaac Norris, another manager of the Pepper Library, said last evening that he advocated the union of all the libraries in the city. These he stated, need not surrender their plants, but simply merge themselves in one large system. He thought that a central main building, with branches throughout the city, was the best scheme for a great Philadelphia free library.

The bookcases for the library of the Reserve Police have been placed in the reading and lounging room at City Hall. Over 200 volumes, which were contributed by publication societies and individuals, and which include entertaining works of travel, history and biography, as well as standard novels, are on the shelves. Over 200 additional books have been promised.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Councilmen Propose to Make a Start With $25,000.

After several ineffectual attempts to arouse sufficient interest in the project to provide Philadelphia with free public libraries or reading-rooms, to be located at convenient points throughout the city, the sub-committee of Councils' Committee on Municipal Legislation yesterday gave the matter a little boom by adopting a resolution recommending the appropriation of $25,000 to the Board of Education for the purpose of establishing one or more libraries and reading-rooms.

RUARY 4, 1890.--EIGHT PAGES.

ALLY DROWNED."

CORONER'S JURY IN [illegible] CASE.

Given by the [illegible]vestigation [illegible]icide."

THE ATHENÆUM.

Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting of the Shareholders.

The 75th annual meeting of the shareholders of the Athenæum was held yesterday morning. Col. J. Granville Leach presided, and Henry M. Robb, Esq., acted as Secretary. The annual report, which was presented and approved, was quite an elaborate printed document, embodying also a sketch of the history of the corporation and the charter and by-laws. The Directors reported a slight increase in the receipts from stockholders, and stated that there are now 14 annual subscribers, a gain of seven over the number last reported.

"It is hoped," the report continued, "that the recently introduced policy of the Board of admitting subscribers for the very small sum of $6 per annum, may in the near future produce a considerable addition to the income of the institution, and the directors urge upon the present stockholders and subscribers the importance of calling the attention of their friends to the great advantages and attractions offered by the Athenæum. All would be benefited, as the revenue derived from this source will be expended in the purchase of new books." The report stated further that the Athenæum now possesses one of the best collections of bound periodicals in the city, and quoting the remark by Lord Jeffrey, the distinguished editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, that he had found on the shelves literary and scientific journals of his own country which he had never before seen, indicating the scope of the collection 50 years ago, added "the field has been rather enlarged than diminished since then, until we now possess some 15,000 bound volumes of this kind. The library also contains a collection of miscellaneous books, largely acquired within the last 10 years, numbering nearly 15,000 volumes, to which additions are now being made at the rate of 700 volumes of current works a year. Particular attention has been paid to collecting the best works of reference on all general subjects, and we now have a large and practical collection of books of this class." The permanent fund now amounts to $22,766 12, a slight increase over the previous year. The additions to the library now amount to 710 volumes, of which 175 were purchased with the income of the Livezey Fund and 525 out of the general fund. The total amount expended for books was $1393 97, and 14,111 books were loaned to stockholders and subscribers, and 82 periodicals are now received.

The recommendation of the Board, that authority be granted to increase the price of shares to $100, was approved.

An election for five directors resulted in the choice of F. Mortimer Lewis, William H. Drayton, Richard M. Cadwalader, Robert W. Ryerss and Charles Biddle, who, with Charles Hare Hutchinson, President; Wm. G. Thomas, Vice President; Howard W. Lewis, Treasurer, and Richard L. Ashhurst, Nathaniel Burt, Archibald R. Montgomery, George Harrison Fisher, William M. Tilghman, William S. Baker and Charlemagne Tower, Jr., constitute the Board of Directors.

CHURCH COUNCILS.

Two Philadelp[illegible]

---

tions of the city in one [illegible] building, it put up its present structure on Sixth, opposite Washington Square. The succession of presidents and other officers is a strong array of notable men—Tilghman, Du Ponceau, Breck, Norris, Fisher, Law and Hutchinson. And it has been fortunate in its Librarians, among whom there has been none better fitted for the post than the present incumbent, Mr. Charles S. R. Hildeburn, whose "Century of Printing in Pennsylvania" and other valuable contributions to our bibliography have given him a well-deserved distinction, which also brings credit to the Athenæum, in whose service his large knowledge of books, old and new, is valuable.

[illegible]ylvania Prison So-

NO FREE LIBRARY IN SIGHT.

Mercantile Directors Decide to Appeal, Too.

The Philadelphia Free Library is almost as uncertain a project as ever. Besides the City Institute's appeal against the recent verdict of the auditing Judge, which awarded the Pepper legacy to the proposed Philadelphia institution, another contestant has arisen in the Mercantile Library, the Directors of which held a meeting last evening.

This body unanimously decided to appeal against the verdict also, and it is probable that, if the decision of the Orphans' Court in Banc, to which the case will now be carried, is adverse, a further appeal will be made to the Supreme Court.

T. Morris Perot presided at the meeting last night, and of the eighteen Directors of the library Messrs. Moore, Hart, Janney, Needles, Fraley, Bennett, Stout, Tucker, Gobrecht, Lambert and Du Bois were present.

Professor Moulton's Successor.

The University Extension management [illegible] Philadelphia is fortun[illegible] [illegible]ence and co-oper[illegible] [illegible] Sadler, of [illegible]

[illegible]minal.

Edward Rich, 22 years old, claiming to be an artist, from Boston, broke into the branch of the Philadelphia Library at Locust and Juniper streets early yesterday morning, and started a burglar alarm in attempting to open the cash drawer. He was captured by the janitor and a policeman, and was committed on a charge of burglary.

FREE BOOKS FOR ALL.

A Proposition to Open the Mercantile Library to the Public.

The Mercantile Library will, in all probability, in the near future be a free institution, open to the public without charge. The subject has been under discussion among the Directors for some time, but it was not until the stockholders became interested in the movement that it promised to succeed.

The change was desired by certain stockholders, who thought by such a step they could obtain for the institution the Pepper bequest, amounting to some $300,000, which was left by the will of the late Mr. G. W. Pepper for the purpose of establishing a free library. The will bequeathed $150,000 direct, and a pro rata interest in the residuary estate, amounting to as much more, and the object of the bequest was to endow a free public library within certain limits of the city.

Yesterday a joint committee of the Directors and stockholders held a long meeting, at which the project was considered in all its bearings. A majority of those present favored making the library a free institution, but it was deemed inadvisable to take any positive action owing to the absence of several members of the committee. There is reason to believe, however, that the absentees favor the proposed change. Another meeting will be held in a few days, and if, as is expected, a favorable report is adopted a meeting of all the stockholders will be called to ratify the committee's conclusion. As matters now stand it is more than likely that the Mercantile will in the near future be in every sense a free library.

THE SCIENCE OF ROAD MAKING.

Philadelphia, Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1890.

☞ Persons wishing to subscribe to the PUBLIC LEDGER can do so by sending their orders to the LEDGER office on postal card or otherwise. They will be punctually served by the regular carriers, the only persons authorized to serve on their respective routes.

THE ATHENÆUM OF PHILADELPHIA.

The 75th annual Report of this venerable institution was submitted to the members at the annual meeting yesterday, February 3d. Besides the usual facts and figures that show its condition and usefulness, the Report was accompanied by a sketch of its history, that forms an important part of the growth of literary studies in this city. It was organized in 1813 by half a dozen young men, whose names are those of representative Philadelphians—Wharton, Lowber, Chew, Coxe, Dillingham, Vaux and Hobart Smith—nearly all then recent graduates of the University of Pennsylvania. By means of an address in the newspapers of the day, over a hundred subscribers were obtained. William Tilghman, Chief Justice, was the first President, and James Mease, Nicholas Biddle, and the originators of the plan of a new reading room, its first managers. Among its earliest accessions was the purchase, for $260, from Colonel William Duane, of files of the *National Intelligencer*, the *Aurora*, the first eight volumes of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, from the first number to 1758, with marginal notes in Franklin's handwriting, for it was his copy, indicating his own contributions and those of his friends, together with 148 volumes of pamphlets collected and bound by Franklin. It is a curious commentary on the small estimate put upon a collection that would now be treasured as invaluable that in the lapse of years this collection was scattered and largely lost, until what was left was finally transferred to the Historical Society in 1877 for safe keeping. Some of the pamphlets have since been sold at public auction for enormous sums, and, as the first 100 numbers of Franklin's *Gazette* sold at the Brinley sale for $560, it is hard to put a money value on the 1500 numbers, enriched by Franklin's own memoranda thus despoiled. Some of Franklin's notes to his collection of pamphlets have been preserved in Sparks's edition of Franklin's works, with due credit to the Athenæum, where he had been enabled freely to use the treasures, then in their keeping.

A noteworthy fact in the conservative history of the Athenæum is that Lafayette was elected an honorary member in 1823, during his triumphal visit to this country, and that he is the only person upon whom that distinction was ever conferred by it. Fortunately the affection of the members atoned for the negligence of the custodians of the valuable books and papers of the Athenæum, and a long list of benefactors includes such well-known names as Tilghman, Lehman, Du Ponceau, Savage, Cresson, Bull, Parot, Burton, Sharpe, Livezey, Lardner and Coffin. To these gifts and legacies, and the careful management of them, the Athenæum owes its present attractive, convenient, beautiful building on Washington Square. It is admirably adapted to its present use, housing under its roof both its own unique library of 30,000 volumes, with a large collection of the foreign and native periodicals (50 years ago Jeffrey, of the "Edinburgh Review," praised its wealth of this useful literature), and the Law Library, as well as the young Catholic Historical Society.

The use of the Athenæum, with its large and growing library, its wealth of periodicals and newspapers, its comfortable reading-rooms and its chess-room, where for years that game has been played by a succession of skillful masters and diligent pupils, is not confined exclusively to the stockholders, but can be enjoyed by annual subscriptions of six dollars.

The Athenæum of Philadelphia has a long and honorable past. It is adding steadily to its stock of books of reference and for daily use, it takes all the leading periodicals and newspapers, and it is in good hands, for its officers, while proud of its history, show an earnest desire to make it a valuable addition to the facilities so much needed in a great city, and just what its founders intended and declared that it should be—a convenient place of common resort in which young men could profitably pass their leisure hours—and this is done by its reading rooms and its library growing in value every year.

The changes of the site of the Athenæum are worth noting—it started at Fourth and Chestnut, over the store so long known as Matthew Carey's and his successors, the leading booksellers and publishers in the days when Philadelphia was the American literary centre. Then it shared with the Philosophical Society its building in Fifth street, below Chestnut, and after in vain trying, with other societies, to secure a union of the principal learned and literary organiza-

---

A GREAT PUBLIC NEED.

"Have New Yorkers contemplated with pride the fact that the representative of the Boston Public Library who attended the sale of the Barlow collection of rare books last week, and secured a good number of the treasures, came here with $25,000 from the city treasury of Boston in his pocket? When will this metropolis have a library corresponding to that which is the pride of Boston, and which that city supports with a generous hand?" That question was asked the other day by the New York *Tribune*.

The Boston Public Library is one of he chief educational institutions of that ity and the adjoining towns. It was ounded by Joshua Bates, a citizen of Massachusetts, who went to London when he was 38 years old and became a member of the banking firm of Baring Brothers & Co. He gave $50,000 originally s a foundation for the library, and subsequently he gave books of like value, making his entire gift $100,000.

It is unhappily the practice, with rare xception, of those who make great public fts to "crib, cabin and confine" them ithin so many restrictions and provisns as to seriously embarrass those harged with their application. So comon is this rule as to have led one of the ost eminent and shrewd of our great ollege presidents to say that he would ther a testator left $10,000 to his college be used in accordance with the judgent of the trustees, than $100,000 bound nd circumscribed with conditions as to s use.

The only condition accompanying oshua Bates's gift was that the library hould be "perfectly free to all, with no ther restrictions than may be necessary or the preservation of the books." The brary was originally opened in 1854. A ear ago, with its eight branches, it contained 400,000 volumes; its executive orce consisted of 150 persons, the city of oston appropriating $125,000 annually or its support. But for years before he city contributed one cent to its upport the Boston Public Library ecame renowned for the benefits it onferred upon the community among hom it was situated. It was so ighly esteemed by such distinguished cholars and public-spirited men as eorge Ticknor, the eminent Spanish historian, and the Rev. Theodore Parker, as o induce them to bequeath to it their arge and valuable libraries. The former's ollection of Spanish literature [illegible] nown as the most important [illegible] merica, and Mr. Parker's the [illegible] ollection of books was unrivalled. [illegible] wo gifts alone would have made an ublic library more than respectable, yet hey were only two of the many which n a few years increased to great proportions the Bates institution.

There is no free library in Philadelphia n the sense that the Boston Public Library is free; nor does any of the restricted ones show vigorous growth in ny direction. One or two of the most nportant of them actually languish, heir usefulness decreasing instead of increasing. When it is considered how many men have risen to distinction in very helpful walk of life through the nfluence exerted upon their youthful minds by the chance reading of a single book, something of the real value of a great public library may be fairly inferred. The benefits which the Boston nstitution has conferred upon the young nd old of that city and of the adjacent owns is inestimable, and they should erve as an incentive to the wealthy, public-spirited men of every community to ollow where Mr. Bates, Mr. Peabody, of Baltimore, and Mr. Carnegie, of Pittsburg, and others, have led. In the way f education, Philadelphia needs no other ne thing so much as a really free public brary of many good books and broad, enerous administration.

◆

ANDREW CARNEGIE has wisely begun during his lifetime the distribution of the money he intends to devote to charitable public uses. About a year ago he opened at Braddock a free public l[illegible]pon which he had expended [illegible] On Tuesday the doors of the free public library he had built for Allegheny City, at a cost of $300,000, were thrown open. On the preceding day he had made an offer to the city of Pittsburg to build a public library, with four or five branches (after the manner of the Pratt institution, in Baltimore), and that offer has been accepted. In both Allegheny and Pittsbu[illegible] running expenses are to be paid by the city, under an agreement with Mr. Carnegie, who believes this to be the best way of establishing a free library, as it gives each taxpayer a feeling of proprietorship, and he makes use of it as a matter of right. Mr. Carnegie's gifts, large as they are, simply provide the buildings for the use of the libraries, which are to be provided and maintained by taxation. The city of Pittsburg agrees, for example, to expend not less than $40,000 per annum on its public library and the branches thereo

◆

PERSONAL FACTS AND FANCI

A FREE LIBRARY FIGHT

Rival Institutions Claim the Pepper Bequest.

THE COURTS MUST DECIDE.

A Formidable Array of Attorneys Appear in Contest in the Orphans' Court.

The fight among the city's free libraries for the $150,000 bequest of the late George S. Pepper began in the Orphans' Court yesterday, when the account of the executors and trustees of the estate came up for audit.

Attorney G. Heide Norris, representing the Free Library of Philadelphia City Institute, objected to the payment of the money to the Free Library of Philadelphia upon the ground that no such library was mentioned in the will, and that it was not in existence at the time.

William P. Gest, Jr., representing the Hirst Free Law Library, contended that the money should go to that institution. In this connection evidence was taken that this library has now between 6000 and 7000 books, many of them not law books, and that it is purely a free library, no money being derived from any source except from the Hirst estate. It appeared that it has the income on $100,000 and an annuity of $1200.

Hawyer Robert H. Hinckley, appearing for the Mercantile Library, urged that that corporation was the one that the testator's words "east of the Schuylkill and south of Market street" should, under the law, be held to imply as the beneficiary.

Attorney Arthur Biddle took the ground that the cash ought to go to the heirs and next of kin of Mr. Pepper, basing his views on the Act of 1885, which provides that where bequests are void the heirs and next of kin of the testator are entitled to the fund. Mr. Biddle contended that the wording of the bequest was vague and that therefore the gift could not hold.

There are other matters in dispute in the estate, and it is likely that a number of them will be heard to-day, when the audit of the account will be resumed.

There was an unusually large array of legal talent in the Court-room, many of the lawyers representing claimants. Edward Shippen appeared for the Art Club; G. Heide Norris, for the Free Library of Philadelphia City Institute; George Vaux, Jr., for the Indigent Widows and Single Woman's Society; Messrs. Shipley & Vaux, for the Northern Soup Society; John G. Johnson, for the Pennsylvania Trust Company; Robert H. Hinckley, for the Mercantile Library; Hon. F. Carroll Brewster, for the Wills Eye Hospital, the residuary legatee; Arthur Biddle, for three of the next of kin, and J. Rodman Paul, for five charities. There were also present the trustees of the estate, John S. Gerhard, George W. Pepper and Joseph B. Townsend, the last-named also representing the Hospital of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

◆

DRESS DRIFT.

Hats in All Sorts of Wild Sh

....Among the libraries of New York the Astor is the most impressive, the Mercantile the most business-like and briskest, the Lenox the quietest and the Mechanics' the most popular in the root sense of that word. The delver for out-of-the-way information finds the libraries of New York disappointing, and a writer seeking authorities upon so simple a matter as the early history of lotteries in the United States was driven to the Philadelphia libraries after long and vain search in New York.—New York Sun.

AN HISTORICAL GIFT.

MRS. CHARLEMAGNE TOWER'S DONATION TO THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY.

A Magnificent Gathering of the Colonial Laws and Other Rare Books Presented as a Memorial of Her Late Husband.

Judge Pennypacker presided over the stated meeting of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, last evening, and Francis N. Thorpe, Ph. D., of the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania, made an address on "Recent Constitution Making in the United States." He spoke of it being a remarkable coincidence that four States should draft constitutions at the same time, and remarked that the new Constitutions of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington Territory were similar in many ways and showed the same tendencies of thought.

The paper was statistical, and gave figures as to the ages, political parties, birthplaces and antecedents of each of the delegates to each convention. It compared the different parts of each instrument with the others separately and with the Constitution of the United States. It noted the differences between them on such subjects as suffrage, taxation, corporation laws, of the lack of municipal legislation, and of the tendency to leave the control of large corporations to the Legislature. He also made mention of the Judicial branch of the Government, and spoke of the various procedures in the four new States. The paper is to appear in the next number of the "Political Science Quarterly."

On motion of Mr. Richardson L. Wright, the society voted Professor Thorpe its thanks.

Gregory B. Keen, Corresponding Secretary, then read the following communication from Brinton Coxe, President, to William Brooke Rawle, Secretary of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, dated Aitkin, South Carolina, March 6, 1890:

"I write you officially as President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania upon an important event of which I request you to inform the society at the earliest opportunity. You are aware of the great value of the rare volumes comprising the unrivalled collection of Americana made by the late Charlemagne Tower, and of its double importance from the point of view of the historian and lawyer. This precious collection has been presented to our society by Mrs. Tower as a monument to the memory of Mr. Tower.

"It is, therefore, Mrs. Tower's wish that the society shall always preserve the volumes of her gift in one collection, to be known as the 'Charlemagne Tower Collection.' An exhaustive report upon the valuable contents of the collection cannot be made at once, for it is a work requiring skill, time and labor. An elaborate catalogue, made by an expert bibliographer, will itself be a work of great value, especially to students at a distance. The mere inspection of the preliminary catalogue is of the highest interest.

"It shows that the volumes of the collection are naturally divided into two classes, namely, those which relate to the history of the laws of the several colonies and States, and those which relate to American history in general. The books of the former class place our society at the head of the depositories of first editions of the laws of the different colonies. These rare works are, however, something more than first editions. They are the original promulgations of the laws of the several colonies. There is one portion of this class which our members will contemplate with peculiar satisfaction and pride. It is the precious and wonderful series of the original promulgations of the printed laws of Pennsylvania. The second division of the collection is that relating to American history in general. At this distance from you it is impossible for me to attempt to do justice to its treasures. I must leave that pleasing task to others more competent. Mrs. Tower has made this donation to the society in a letter she has done me the honor of addressing to me. In my answer I have expressed to her the deep appreciation which our members feel of the value and utility of her munificent gift. I have assured her that we will always execute the duties and trusts imposed upon us by the possession of this noble monument to the memory of Mr. Tower.

"In conclusion, sir, [illegible] move you take early action to affor[illegible]ociety an opportunity of expressin[illegible]entiments upon coming into possession [illegible] The Charlemagne Tower Collection.'"

Mr. Keen then read a letter from Mrs. Charlemagne Tower, offering the collection to the society, in which she asks it to keep the books together and call it "The Charlemagne Tower Collect[illegible]n," in memory of her late husband. [illegible]e stated that she thought she was doing with them what her husband would have done had he lived longer.

Judge Pennypacker stated that the council of the society had accepted the gift, and, on motion of ex-Provost Stille, the thanks of the society were tendered to Mrs. Tower for her magnificent donation.

In addition to a number of rare and scarce books mentioned editorially, the following are amongst the collection:

The only known copy of the Laws of Vermont, 1779. The first edition of the Laws of Massachusetts, 1660, and eight other volumes of Massachusetts laws printed before 1700. First edition of Rhode Island Laws, 1730. First edition of Connecticut Laws, 1672. Second edition of New Jersey Laws, 1717. First edition of Pennsylvania Laws, 1714, and the nearest complete set of Pennsylvania Session Laws in existence. Second edition of the Laws of Delaware, 1752. Second edition of the Laws of Maryland, 1723. First edition of the Laws of Virginia, 1662. First edition of the Laws of North Carolina, 1751. First edition of the Laws of South Carolina, 1736. Acts passed by the General Assembly of Georgia, 1755-1774, of which but 50 copies were privately printed in 1881.

First edition of Acosta's West Indies, 1590; Archdale's "North Carolina," 1707; "History of the Baptists," by Isaac Backus, 3 vols.; Beverly's "Virginia," 1705; Bishop's "New England Judges," 1703; Benzoni's "Historia," 1572. The following of the Eliot Indian tracts, printed between 1647 and 1655: "The Day Breaking;" the "Clear Sunshine of the Gospel;" "The Generous Progress of the Gospel;" the "Light Appearing;" "Strength out of Weakness, "Years of Repentance," and a "Late and Further Manifestation;" Hubbard's "Indian Wars," 1677; Mather's "Magnolia," 1702; "Brief and Full Narrative of the Late Wars in New England," 1675; Smith's "History of New Jersey," 1761; Stith's "Virginia," 1747; "The Planter's Plea," 1630, and John Smith's "General History of Virginia," 1627.

The following were nominated for officers, the election to take place next month: President, Brinton Coxe; Vice President, John Jordan, Jr., Isaac Craig, of Allegheny; Recording Secretary, Wm. Brooke Rawle; Corresponding Secretary, Gregory B. Keen; Treasurer, J. Edward Carpenter; for the Council for three years, Charles Roberts, Edwin T. Eisenbrey and Geo. Harrison Fisher; for Trustee of Publication and Binding Funds, Charles Hare Hutchinson.

The following were appointed tellers: Col. John P. Nicholson, Col. J. Granville Leach, John J. Thompson, John W. Jordan, Charles R. Hildeburn, L. Taylor Dickson, Col. Frederick D. Stone and Dr. J. J. Levick.

20th, 1890.

Philadelphia City Institute.

[FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

MR. EDITOR:—Referring to a communication published recently in the LEDGER, I desire to say that the Managers of the Philadelphia City Institute claim that its library "is free to all, and in every sense established to carry out the common and popular idea of a free library," as stated in the resolution of the Board by which the Finance Committee of the Institute was authorized to present its claim for the Pepper legacy. And I further desire to say that the Institute makes no charge to anyone for taking books out of the library. The prices named on the back of tickets are for the information of those who desire to become life members, annual members and contributors to our charity. Without such membership and contributors our free library could not have been established. Our books are free to all. Any visitor can take them from the shelves and read them in the library from 2 until 9 P. M. daily, except Sunday. Anyone can take the books home without deposit or charge by giving to the librarian a suitable guarantee for the safe return within two weeks. How a library can be made more free I am at a loss to imagine. If our income from contributors was large enough, we would be able to

---

Decline of Circulating Libraries.

In connection with the supposed demand for a free public library, the recent decline of the Mercantile Library is suggestive. The directors wish now to make it free, because there are not enough persons who are willing to pay to support it and they would like to have the advantage of the PEPPER bequest. But it cannot be supposed that the small cost of a share in the Mercantile and the light annual dues are an actual obstacle to any person who seriously seeks the advantages of a library. While the Mercantile has increased and improved its collections, its membership has diminished and the circulation of books has rapidly declined. The plain inference is that people no longer read or else that they read something else than books. In either case they do not want a circulating library.

This is simply another demonstration of the fact often asserted here, that there is at present no real public demand for circulating libaries that is not already fairly supplied. Libraies for study and reference, like the Philadelphia and its branches, and the collections of learned societies, it is important to foster in every way and to enlarge their accommodations to the public by abundant means. But the light literature and fiction that forms the great stock in trade of the lending libraries has become so cheap that those who have time for anything more than they get in the newspapers buy their reading at the news-stands and no longer depend upon libraries at all.

We are told that a free public library would help to correct all this by making good books accessible to the masses. It might do so, but how are the masses to be induced to read the good books? If multitudes of shareholders in a library like the Mercantile allow their proprietary interest to lapse because they do not care to read; if such a storehouse of all the treasures of literature as the Ridgway Library, with its unequaled reading rooms freely open to every passer-by, has its solitude disturbed only by two or three silent students from morning till night, by what means are we to compel the readers to come in from the highways and hedges when we get our free library started?

The other question, how we are to keep it going, is equally unanswered by the experience of the Mercantile. It may be that people would subscribe for the good of humanity who would not subscribe for their own personal advantage, but this is not the usual rule, and it does not look as though a lending library were just the thing that humanity in Philadelphia was most loudly demanding just at this time. A library for actual reading and study and for the preservation of literary, historical and scientific knowledge—that is another thing. Such libraries must be dependent on the liberality of those who appreciate the value of knowledge, and rightly sustained they become centres for the diffusion of knowledge among the masses.

---

at

Free Library Movement.

A committee of the Board of Managers of the Mercantile Library last evening resolved to call a meeting of the stockholders to act upon a proposition to relinquish their stock as a contribution to a free public library.——Managers of the Philadelphia City Institute last evening decided to make application for the bequest of $150,000 of the late George S. Pepper for a free library.

9.30 o'clock.

The Proposed Free Library.

President Perot has appointed the following Committee of Thirteen, which was authorized at a meeting of the Mercantile Library Company, held on the 22d inst., to confer with a similar committee of the Board of Directors in reference to certain resolutions looking towards the formation of a free library: Dr. Mary E. Allen, Mrs. Washington L. Bladen, Dr. G. D. Brinton, Mrs. Mary M. Cohen, Charles J. Gobrecht, John C. Maule, Milton A. Nobles, T. A. Robinson, Joseph G. Rosengarten, Simon A. Stern, William R. Tucker, Mrs. William Waterall, Henry Willis.

TO BE REORGANIZED.

THE PROJECT TO MAKE THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY FREE NOT A FEASIBLE ONE.

As a result of the reports received from the Committees appointed to take into consideration the matter of making the Mercantile Library free, presented at the meeting of the Board of Directors yesterday afternoon, the project will be abandoned and a complete reorganization will most likely take place, by which it is hoped that the library will be re-established on a successful and paying basis.

The contemplated changes, it is said, include among other things a reduction in the present rate, so as to make its privileges accessible to the reading public. A plan of reorganization will be submitted at the annual meeting on Tuesday next.

The progressive element in the Board of Directors have been opposed to the policy, hitherto the rule, of excluding reporters from t[illegible] meetings, and henceforth the transactions

229

of that body will be open to the members of

A JURY TEST OF SOL HEILBUN'S WILL —THE DEAD MAN'S RELATIVES LOSE THEIR CASE.

Judge Penrose to-day, in the Orphans' Court, filed an opinion dismissing the appeal under which it was asked by the dead man's relatives to have the validity of the will made by Solomon M. Heilbrun, the former theatrical business manager, who left Mrs. Grace C. Burger comfortable for life, tested by a jury trial in the Common Pleas.

It was recited in the opinion that the possessions that Mr. Heilbrun left, amounting, after the payment of debts, to about $29,000, was the result of his own industry and shrewd business capacity as manager and publisher of an advertising paper circul

RIDGWAY LIBRA

A GR ANNUA

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTE WITH THE DREER COLLECTION.

Additions Donated by Miss Eliza th Nixon, Mrs. Chapman Biddle and Others.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, at its annual meeting last evening in its hall, Thirteenth and Locust streets, re-elected Brinton Coxe, President; Aubrey H. Smith, Craig Biddle and Ferdinand J. Dreer, Honorary Vice Presidents; Isaac Craig, of Allegheny, Pa., Vice President, in place of William M. Darlington, deceased; re-elected as Recording Secretary, William Brooke Rawle; Corresponding Secretary, Gregory B. Keen; Treasurer, J. Edward Carpenter; Council, Edwin T. Eisenbrey, George Harrison Fisher and Charles Roberts; Trustees of the Binding Fund and Trustees of Publication Fund, Charles Hare Hutchinson and Brinton Coxe.

The tellers were J. Granville Leach, Frederick D. Stone and John W. Jordan, Jr., and after they had reported President Coxe notified the society that there was a vice presidency vacant, caused by the death of the late John Jordan, Jr. Ex-Provost Stille nominated Mr. Henry Charles Lea, and he was at once unanimously elected. The report of the Council of the society for the year 1889 showed that the aggregate of the real estate, cash, investments, &c., amounted to $217,172 42. Judge Mitchell is the President of it and Professor Keen is the Secretary.

The Dreer Collection.

President Coxe then announced that the presentation to the Society had been made of a great collection of manuscripts and autographs by Mr. Ferdinand J. Dreer, and that Hampton L. Carson would make the formal offer of them.

Mr. Carson said: "It is my privilege and pleasure to make the announcement tha our fellow-member and fellow-citizen ha given us a most valuable collection of rar and curious manuscripts and autographs The deed of trust I hold in my hand, date March 1st, 1890, and has been duly recorded. It names Hampton L. Carson, Willian Brooke Rawle, Frederick D. Stone, Gregor B. Keen and Edwin G. Dreer successors i the trust. The Board of Trustees is, whe changes are needed from the men named i the deed, to consist of at least the President the Librarian and three active members o the Historical Society.

Mr. Gregory B. Keen then presented a paper describing the history and make up o the collection. He said that it had been begun more than forty years ago by Mr. Dreer, and comprises upwards of 9000 letters. The first autograph letter purchased by him was supposed to be written by President Washington, but it was subsequently discovered that his nephew, of the same name, was the author. In 1851 Mr. Dreer bought the valuable collection of autographs made by Robert Gilmor, of Baltimore.

The Popes of Rome, the Emperors of Germany, the Kings and Queens of England, Sovereigns of France, of Spain, of Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Holland and all countries are represented. Saints, Bishops, Cardinals, Prelates and noted Protestants have their signatures exhibited.

The great philosophers and scientists, the followers of art, in architecture, painting, engraving, music; the followers of literature and polititics, the orators and statesmen, the historians, the poets, the navigators and travellers, all are present in their own writing.

Inventors, military and naval leaders, the law and medicine—no profession or avocative is neglected.

The autographs of the Presidents of the United States, members of the Continental Congress, Signers of the Declaration, of all who were conspicuous in the War of the Revolution, attracted much attention.

There are letters also of Lincoln and Grant, including the famous demand of the latter for the unconditional surrender of Fort Donelson, and many autograph books.

Secretary Rawle then announced that he had received a letter from Miss Elizabeth Nixon, a granddaughter of Robert Morris, in which she offered the society some interesting relics of her distinguished grandfather.

Miss Nixon gave the portraits and relics so that they should be preserved as a memorial of her grandfather. The articles are a portrait of Robert Morris, the father of the "Financier;" Robert Morris, the "Financier," painted by Sully after Gilbert Stuart; Robert Morris, son of the "Financier," painted in France; a portrait of Mrs. Robert Morris, in water color, after miniature by Trumbull; a portrait of Bishop White, Mrs. Morris's brother, by Sully, after Stuart, and a miniature of Colonel John Nixon, by his granddaughter, Caroline Bollman, after a portrait by Stuart. Also, a brass-bound box which belonged to Robert Morris; a gold and enamel breastpin, with hair of George and Martha Washington, given by Mrs. Washington to Maria Morris, afterwards Mrs. Henry Nixon, while on a visit to Eleanor Custis, Mount Vernon, as a token of personal affection and evidence of the friendship existing between the families of Washington and Morris; and a Royal Dresden china tea set, presented by Chevalier de la Luzerne, French Minister to this country, on his returning to France, to Mrs. Morris.

The Secretary also reported the presentation, by Mrs. Chapman Biddle, of a volume of autographs from the correspondence of Col. Clement Biddle of the Revolution. The extent and value of this collection can in part be estimated by the following summary of its contents: The number of letters written and signed by Washington was 34, and 32 letters signed by him but written by his secretaries; 5 notes from Mrs. Washington; 8 letters from George A. Washington; 4 letters from Thomas Mifflin; one written from Cambridge immediately after the battle of Bunker Hill, describing the conflict. The other letters were from some of the best known Revolutionary heroes.

Mr. Charles Henry Hart donated a letter signed by Samuel Huntingdon, President of the Congress, informing Robert Morris that he had been appointed Financier of the United States. Mr. Hart asked that it might be put with the Morris collection, presented by Miss Nixon, and it was so exhibited. Votes of thanks were passed to all the contributors.

In one corner of the exhibition room the tall folio volumes of the Correspondence of Mary Howitt are piled on a table, full of rare and curious inserted manuscripts and prints; in another corner of the same room is the correspondence between Dr. Elisha Kent Kane and Mr. George W. Childs in regard to the publication of the book that proved so successful.

Both of these, it is stated, were given to Mr. Dreer by Mr. Childs, and are now in a safe harbor. Dr. Kane's "log book" is also on deck.

The announcement was made that there were 82 autograph letters, signed by Washington, and 47 letters signed by him, presented to the society in the above described gifts.

---

all means.

A FREE LIBRARY.

Public Spirited Citizens Apply to the Courts for a Charter for the Institution, Which Will Be Located in Central Part of the City.

For a long time past a number of public spirited citizens have had under consideration the question of establishing a free public library in the central part of the city, a library which will be conducted in an entirely different sense from that of the Philadelphia Library. One of the principal promoters of the enterprise was the late William Henry Rawle, who was very anxious during the latter part of his life that the library should be established, but after his death no further action was taken in the matter until quite recently, when those interested in the scheme conferred together, and the result of that conference has been the filing of an application with the Prothonotary of the Common Pleas Court for a charter for the Free Library Company, of Philadelphia, by George Wharton Pepper, Esq.

The subscribers to the movement include Charles C. Harrison, Edward S. Harlan, Esq., George Henderson, Secretary of the American Society for University Extension; Samuel Wagner, of the Wagner Free Institute; and C. Stuart Patterson. The Board of Directors consists of the subscribers already mentioned, together with Dr. Isaac Norris, William Platt Pepper, David Pepper, Dr. William Pepper, Joseph W. Potts, and A. Sydney Willward.

One of the prime movers in the free library when questioned about the matter this afternoon, stated that it would be a free institution in every sense of the term, and that the Board of Directors had been engaged for some time past in looking for a suitable site upon which to locate the library building.

"A number of sites have been placed at our command, said he, "but no selection has as yet been determined upon. We propose to secure a location as near the centre of the city as it is possible, and when that is made, the work of constructing one of the handsomest library buildings in the country will be commenced. The library will be a representative one in all the various branches of literature; that is in circulation as well as a library of reference. It will not be a stock concern in any sense, but when opened to the public will be free to all."

"What do you estimate that the library will cost?" was asked. "It is calculated that the building and the books which the promoters have in view, will cost over a half million dollars."

The gentleman states further that it was the intention to apply to the executors of the estate of the late George S. Pepper for the bequest of $150,000 mentioned in his will to the trustees of "such free library as may be established east of the Schuylkill River and south of Market street. The application for a charter, he explained, was made independent of this bequest. "We are determined," he said in conclusion, even if we fail to secure the amount mentioned in Mr. Pepper's will, to establish the free library, and expect to have it open free to the public in the course of about a year."

A NEW MINT.

WILMINGTON'S FREE LIBRARY.

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

WILMINGTON, Del., June 12.—The stockholders of the Wilmington Institute to-night accepted the legislative enactment under which the property shall become a free public library supported by the city. Its life as a free library is to begin the first of next year.

THE ROBERT PURVIS LIBRA

The Library of Anti-Slavery History at the University.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

In response to your editorial article last August on Robert Purvis, I then suggested the "Robert Purvis Library" and that it be made a part of the library of American history at the University of Pennsylvania, in which any and all records, letters, printed speeches, books, newspapers, as well as photographs of prominent persons connected with the anti-slavery struggle, should be deposited for free use and reference to all for all time. The trustees have formally acted upon the suggestion, and have set apart ample library facilities for the special purpose.

Already Robert Purvis has responded and has placed upon the shelves a large amount of valuable matter, history records, newspapers, &c., some of which were considered very incendiary fifty or even fewer years ago. Rev. William H. Purvis has also sent a collection from his valuable library.

I am safe in saying the trustees would most cordially invite any and all others who may have matter of this special character to place it in their keeping for the uses mentioned. They would, no doubt, be also pleased to hear from those who have records of this character which the possessors may not be at once ready to part with.

Robert Purvis was a born Abolitionist and ever ready to hear the cry of the oppressed and respond to it.

He was the president of the "Underground Railroad" during its existence, and has always acted ably and fully his part in his connection with the past and present for the future in this grand department of American history. He is a "connecting link" as it were in the struggle of the past and the accomplishment of the present. Always for liberty and freedom, ever ready and ever standing firm as might be said between the man slave before the war and the man citizen, statesman, president, after the four years' struggle, and now in this his ripe old age, having lived to see the fruition of his labors and the fulfillment of his life's work, it is most fitting as an evidence of the true appreciation in which he is held by his fellow citizens for services most faithfully rendered for humanity "without fear, favor or reward," that the Robert Purvis Library be established and set apart as a feature and portion of the great library of American history in the University of Pennsylvania.

Another suggestion which the trustees so kindly and favorably acted upon, was to set apart space which is all important as an essential part of American history, too little understood, for "the Friends or Quaker Library," where records, books, papers, sermons, history, manuscript, etc., of every kind may be deposited relating to both branches of Society of Friends (Quakers), from their earliest settlements in this country, and even back to the time of George Fox.

Such material will be found to contain the germs and germ products of the underlying principles of our form of government, and shows that it is based upon the religious and peace principles, laid down and promulgated by the founder, George Fox, for man to govern himself, which is self-government.

Henry Armitt Brown, well remembered by many for his brilliancy and scholarship, said, in an oration delivered at Burlington, N. J., December, 1877, that the Friends (Quakers) one hundred years before Jefferson penned his memorable document, had adopted, at a town meeting called for that purpose, the basic principle of local self-government, and organized and established a government of the people, under which they lived and flourished unmolested. I quote from his oration (page 268): "But they were animated by the truest spirit of philanthropy, by the sincerest love of liberty, by the warmest devotion to what they understood to be the command of God. And they were, after all, worthy to lay the foundations of a free and humane government. Independence of thought, freedom of person, liberty of conscience: these were the things they all believed in, and for them they were ready to make any sacrifice." Page 270: "The authors of this document, adopted and signed on the 3d of March, 1676, seem to have seen the goodness of their handiwork. Then they cry in words which are at once a prophecy and a confession of faith: 'We lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty, as men and Christians, that they may not be brought in bondage but by their own consent, for we put the power in the people.'"

It is altogether proper and right that the Friends (Quakers) should maintain and perpetuate their rightful and true position as a people in American history before the world, that future generations may know the mental and moral characteristics of this religious sect, their remarkable training and education, which fitted them to enter into the struggle of man for self-government, a government of and for the people. I would most earnestly appeal in behalf of the trustees and for the good that may come from such a course of action to all Friends (Quakers) or their descendants, wheresoever they may be, to act promptly and forward to the trustees such literature as is called for and give notice as to what material each may have that can be had for this library.

The shelves can be and ought to be, and if each Friend does his and her duty will be, filled with matter now scattered and useless, but which, if collected and preserved in such a library as this, will help to place the society and its principles, some day when the real history of the rise and development of American institutions is written, in a much higher place than they ever have occupied or do at present.

It is their duty to place before the world, or at least within the reach of the student and lover of truth, the materials of their unwritten history. Some day that history will be written and it will then appear if they now do their duty that the persecutions for conscience sake which were suffered by members of that society helped to fan the flame that burned the chaff and stubble from the ground, for the better cultivation of industry, patriotism, intelligence and devotion to duty which laid the sound foundation of our free republic "of and for the people."

THOMAS WALTER.

PHILADELPHIA, April 15, 1891.

PUBLIC LEDGER— PHILADELPHIA, WE

A CURIOUS LIBRARY.

THE WHARTON SCHOOL OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY AND ITS BOOKS.

Government Law and Statistics the Chief Subjects—Rapid Growth and Wide Range of the Library—Some of the Books Included.

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

The faculty of the Wharton School of Finance and Economy, at the University of Pennsylvania, have been steadily developing, during the past months, a library which, now that it has reached very large dimensions, is making its importance felt. It has grown in various ways. The foundation was laid by the great collection of the late Stephen Colwell, comprising between seven and eight thousand volumes, and including nearly every important book on the subjects of finance and political economy in the English, French and Italian languages, published before 1860. This was supplemented by the bequest of the library of the late Henry C. Carey, which embraces many later works and pamphlets, and is especially rich in statistical literature, European Government reports and the like. Some time since, in addition, a collection of about 3000 English pamphlets on financial and economical subjects, formerly the property of Mr. McCalmont, was obtained, covering the period from the close of the seventeenth century to our own time, and bound in chronological order. Professor Bastable, of Dublin, has pronounced this to be better than the similar collection of the British Museum. It is necessary, of course, in order to keep pace with the times, to buy the best of the new books within the scope of the Wharton School. An annual fund has accordingly been provided for this purpose, and a number of works, several of them fresh from the author's hands, which were selected by Professor James while abroad last summer, have lately arrived at the University. Besides these various sources of growth, several private libraries in Philadelphia of great value have been placed at the service of the students of the Wharton School, in some cases the owners having allowed their books to be removed temporarily to the shelves of the University. In a number of instances, too, presents have been made to the school of single volumes or sets of books by gentlemen who have become interested in its work. The rowth of the library of late is largely owing the spirit of activity which has taken ession of the faculty of the Wharton ol, as it pervades most of the other de- ents of the University of Pennsyl-

oks on Law and Government.

uce at some of the more interesting s of this library will interest the 's readers. In periodicals issued in ous branches of its scope the school particularly rich. Considerably over ed of these have been or are to be and, in the near future, may be ich month on the shelves, at the a of the college buildings. Every ma e of note on the subject, foreign or nati , will be included among these. A special aim of those most active in the matter has been for some time past the securing of a complete series of the laws of all countries. Such an undertaking it requires scores of years to complete. In this department, however, the Wharton School Library has already made a good beginning. Mr. Stuart Wood presented it with a set of the Prussian Statutes at large, including the years 1806 to 1886. There are to be found all the laws of the new German Empire, from its creation, in 1866, down to 1886; a collection of works on German constitutional and administrative laws, said to be the finest in the country, and a work upon the public administration of Austria, by Ulbrich. When finished this last will number five or six volumes. So far, the University has received twenty-one parts. No other country but Austria, Professor James thinks, has issued a work of the kind as complete and thorough. It gives, in detail, all the workings of each branch of the Government, and even treats of school control. In this country the sources of information are so scattered that it is difficult for the student to investigate. Another book, by Ducrocq, also still unfinished, describes the administrative law of France. This, too, will extend to five or six volumes. Each volume treats in detail a special branch of the government. Marquardsen's "Constitutional Law of All Countries" is another work that the Wharton School owns on the general subject of government. The author is Professor of Constitutional Law at Erlangen.

A further aim of the library's promoters is to obtain documents pertaining to municipal government for each city in the world that contains over 100,000 inhabitants. A large collection of these has already been made. From Mr. Stuart Wood a number of works on English municipal government have been received.

Census Reports.

An effort is being made to gather a complete series of census reports for the whole of Europe. Those of Switzerland and Germany are already in the library, and the securing of reports for France, Austria and Italy has begun. There will be in all seven or eight volumes. The German methods of census-taking are particularly interesting. The general plan only is similar to our own. Everything but the simple enumeration of population is obtained gradually through special agents. The numbering of the population is done in this way. About five o'clock on the afternoon of a given day printed blanks are left at every house in Berlin. These are required to be filled in with the number of people actually in the house about seven o'clock in the evening, when the writing is to be done. Early the next morning the blanks are called for. This is believed to be a very accurate method, as it does away with the repetitions which are so likely to occur, when, by the mode generally used, each blank is filled in with the names of all members of the family, whether they are present or absent.

Railway Reports and Statistics.

It is hoped also before long to secure a complete set of railway reports, both State and national, for this country and Europe. The best collection of the kind in this city, perhaps the best in the country, is that owned by Mr. Stuart Wood. A valuable German work on the subject of railroads in the library is "Archiv Fuer Eisenbahn Wesen." The difference between the principles of railroad control in this country and Germany makes this last book entertaining reading. The German Government owns its railroads; for many years they considered them quite independently of the canals. Only comparatively lately the Railroad Bureau has commenced the experiment of managing the two as a combined system. In Germany, long since, the conclusion was reached that canals must be more than thirty feet wide and six feet deep to compete with railroads. The recent undertaking in England, to construct an immense canal from the sea to Manchester, along which ships of the largest burden could be towed, has opened the eyes of European engineers. Germany is at work upon an extensive canal system. The Baltic Sea will be connected with the North Sea, and many vessels will thus be saved the dangerous voyage around Denmark. Perhaps easy navigation will be made possible by means of a canal between Dantzic, on the Baltic, and Cologne, on the Rhine. The great rivers—Rhine, Weser, Elbe and Oder—are to be connected with the Danube. It is likely that before long the trip from Berlin to the mouth of the Danube, on the Black Sea, can be made by water, without the traveller once catching sight of the ocean. In connection with this information about German railroad and canal administration Professor James, of the University, believes it to be a fact that railroad and canal enterprise has sprung largely in the past from war scares. He points to the proposition that lately has been held forth with frequency to join Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore by a ship canal, through which, with the utmost rapidity and safety, the war fleets of the United States could be concentrated at either of the four points considered most desirable for the purpose. The project, he claims, needs no argument from a military standpoint. It would pay in a few years enormous profits as a commercial enterprise. Professor James proposes, in addition, however, that the United States Government should connect, by means of properly constructed canals, the Mississippi river with New York city, by way of the Great Lakes; with Baltimore and Washington, by way of the Ohio and Potomac rivers, and with Savannah over the Southern mountains.

Statistical Works.

The books on the subject of statistics will constitute a very large department of the library. The faculty of the school expect to have complete reports of the Bureau of Statistics in this country. A number of foreign works on the subject are already on the book shelves. Two of the most interesting works of this collection are the Paris Annual and the Berlin Year Book. These correspond to a combination of all our municipal reports on the state of the city, except that they are much fuller. The Paris Annual shows that something like $75,000,000 is spent upon the city of Paris every year. No wonder that the French capital has good pavements and light. Professor James argues that in Philadelphia we have as good pavements as we pay for. The trouble is here, in his opinion, that the appropriations are large enough to afford an opportunity for plenty of misapplication, but not large enough to secure good pavements, if we had the most honest contractors in the world. The Berlin Year Book is entertaining enough to give many of its figures. It is prepared by the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics after he has thoroughly worked over the reports of the departments of city government. The facts which he picks out are those showing the life of the populace. Our vital statistics cannot compare with those which are compiled in Germany. The population is classified according to religious view, there being in Berlin but few sects of importance. The division in the Year Book is into Evangelical, Catholic, Jewish, Dissenting and Miscellaneous

ber of families, each using a floor. Accordingly, the Year Book gives the number of people who live in first floors, second floors, third floors, etc., throughout the city. More people, it states, live on third floors than on any other. Not content with specifying the different stories occupied, the book goes further, and details the number of "heatable" rooms, as it calls them. The expression means rooms heated by stoves, as there is but little steam heating in Berlin. In 1885 there were 304,000 of such rooms.

Curious Calculations.

The year book also gives the figures of the income tax. An income of $250 or less is not taxed, and up to $750 the tax is nominal. For incomes over $750 the owner must swear as to the truth of the figures he gives. The exact rental of each dwelling is obtained, and the average rentals for different conditions are published. The showing for the year 1885 makes the average rental for a single room without a stove—or an "unheatable" room, as the expression used is—a sum that corresponds in our money to $30 per year. It makes the rental for a single room with a stove in it—or a single "heatable" room—$50; for living apartments, consisting of two "heatable" rooms, $85 per annum; for apartments, consisting of three such rooms, $150; for four "heatable" rooms, $200, etc.

The figures throwing light upon the amount of reading done by different classes of citizens is very detailed. In Berlin they have a system of popular ward libraries, of which there are 25 altogether. These are owned and managed by the city. The drain upon these libraries during a single season is sought to be shown more usefully by a classification of the readers. Twelve hundred officials of the city civil service are reported to have taken out altogether 30,000 volumes, or twenty-five apiece. Nine hundred and eleven teachers are stated to have used in the same period of time, 25,000 books; 3000 pupils of the schools, 66,000 volumes; 2000 business men, 49,000 volumes; 3600 artisans, 69,000 volumes; 865 workmen of the lower class, 18,000 volumes; 125 soldiers, 999 volumes, and 3500 women 82,000 volumes. The official library of the Mayor of Berlin had recently 30,000 volumes; the library of the Statistical Bureau had at the same time 5000 books; the Royal Library 1,000,000 books, of which 200,000 were taken out in the year; the University Library loaned in the same time 45,000 books; the library of the Geological Society, 35,000; that of the Technical High School, 5000; that of the Agricultural School, 30,000; that of the Patent Office, 30,000; that of the Imperial Statistics Bureau, 80,000, and that of the Prussian Statistics Bureau, 113,000.

Marriage Statistics.

The figures given in regard to marriage are interesting. In Germany, a compulsory civil marriage law is in force. The only question before the parties to a marriage in Berlin is, whether, after the civil marriage, they shall seek the blessing of the Church upon their union. The Year Book shows that in 1886 eight per cent. more married couples sought this blessing than in the preceding year. Sixty-one per cent. of all those married couples, not classed as Catholics, were married a second time with a religious service. During the same year eighty-seven per cent. of the children in the whole population are shown to have been baptized. The ordinary church statistics, curiously, appeared as follows: Churches in Berlin, 45; chapels (chiefly meeting places of sects), 21; total church seating capacity, 50,000; clergymen, 127. The population of the city is about 1,500,000. There is a special report of accessions and desertions of the Evangelical body in Berlin. In 1887 285 persons were converted to Evangelicalism, and 114 persons left the body. Six of these latter went over to Judaism, and 108 to other religious denominations.

No Personal Liberty in Berlin.

The police methods in Berlin greatly aid in the preparation of an accurate census. No room can be rented at a hotel or boarding house, and no apartment or house can be legally leased until the landlord has sent to the police the name and purpose of the new comer and the length of time for which he will probably make the city his home. The same method is in vogue in other German cities. The experience of one of the professors of the University of Pennsylvania last summer is significant as to the effectiveness of these methods. Wishing to communicate with an American lady who was abroad, and, as he thought, in Leipsic, he wrote to the police of that city. The answer declared that no person of the name was in the city. A similar letter was sent to the police headquarters of Dresden, and a similar answer was received. When later, however, the Professor wrote to the police of Berlin, the reply announced that Mrs. —— was living at No. — —— street, on the —— floor.

Other Interesting Works.

Other publications may be mentioned at random in the Wharton School Library, which, from rarity or from other sources of value, stand out among the rest. These are a completed collection of the works of Wagner, the leading political economist of Germany, a present from Mr. Stuart Wood; the works of Schaeffle and Stein; a set of Governmen documents, thought to be the best extan excepting those of the Congressional Library and the Boston Public Library a file of the *Journal des Economistes* presented by Mr. Charles H. Hutchinson the "Almanack de Gotha;" a collection o all the known treaties which have been made between nations since 1761, by Martens; "Diderot's Encyclopædia," given by Mr. Brinton Coxe, and *Allgemeine Zeitung*, a political science daily, published in Munich.

CORNELIS MELLYN.

---

gladly accept invitation but for urgent cal home.''

A Careless Kick.

Edward H. Sola yesterday filed in th Common Pleas a statement of claim in his suit against Charles A. Bradenburg, the proprietor of the Dime Museum, at Ninth and Arch streets. The suit is for the recovery of damages for injuries received, caused by the alleged negligent and careless act of an employé of the defendant, who, in getting over a railing in the Museum building,

Pig-skins in Bookbinding.

A correspondent to the *Scottish Leather Trader* writes about a Perth firm which found a new field for pig-skins, as follows:—

"These pelts have up till recently been principally utilized in the manufacture of saddlery goods. This firm had their attention directed some time ago to the importance of opening up a trade in importing the pig-skins to supplement the native supply of the raw material. This has proved a great success, and the result is that the quantity of pig-skins which are now available for tanning purposes may be said to be illimitable. Consequently, it has been found necessary to look about for other purposes to which to put the tanned and prepared skin. Experiments in dyeing were then resorted to, also in printing the hides with several designs, which from their nature they are peculiarly suitable for, and for some time these skins have been largely in use among upholsterers and bookbinders for the leather portion of their respective trades. The style and appearance of the skin has caused it to be well received on all hands. With a view still further to extend its usefulness the firm have had some prepared in a levanted state for the boot trade, and in this department they have been so successful that the old-fashioned levant sealskin has now a formidable competitor to contend with. It was a perfect treat to look over some of the finished hides and handle them."

Europe it brings $3,000 or $4,000.

—Following the example of Mr. Joseph Zaehnsdorf, who lately bound two Elzevir editions in human skin, another London binder has executed an order to encase a copy of Hans Holbein's *Dance of Death* in the same ghastly integument, certainly a very appropriate covering for this work.

—A work by Professor Camillo Antona-Traversi on Ugo Foscolo will shortly be published by Du-

---

Printed matter may be copied on any paper of an absorbent nature, by dampening the surface with a weak solution of acetate of iron, and pressing in an ordinary copying press. Old writing may also be copied if wet with a weak solution of sulphate of iron mixed with a small solution of sugar syrup.—*Paper World.*

Restoration of Old Parchments.—A valuable discovery has been made, whereby the faded ink on old parchments may be so restored as to render the writing perfectly legible. The process consists in moistening the paper with water, and then passing over the lines in writing a brush which has been wet in a solution of ammonia. The writing will immediately appear quite dark in color; and this color, in the case of parchment, it will preserve. On paper, however, the color gradually fades again; but it may be restored at pleasure by the application of the sulphide. The explanation of the action of this substance is very simple. The iron which enters into the composition of the ink is transformed by the reaction into the black sulphide.—*Electrical Review.*

Remarkable feat in book renovation has just been completed by a Frenchman named Lahonton. He had sent him a copy of Coverdale's Bible that was completely saturated with fat, and had been badly eaten by mice. His process was to treat each leaf to a judicious course of chlorine in solution and ammonia, while the dirt was removed by some process only known to himself. He then supplied the defective portions by carefully grafting on selected pieces of paper of the requisite texture and shade. The missing letter-press was facsimiled. The whole was then sized and afterwards appropriately bound by one of the best Parisian binders, the whole cost of this treatment being £200.

Leather goods should not be exposed in apartments where gas is often used, the effect being to rapidly spoil the back of books and other exposed surfaces, and to make them "rotten." Recent experiments show that the cause of this deterioration is due to the combustion of the bisulphide of carbon contained in the gas and the consequent oxidation into sulphuric acid. Russia and calf appear to suffer most, while morocco suffers least.

A mad stone owned by a Kansas

"Bookworms," says Superintendent Garnett, of the British Museum, "are rare, but lately some were found in a very old work. They were supposed to be Oriental. Mr. Blades, who has written on the subject, has vainly tried to breed them. He is now preserving one, in hopes of its becoming a moth, and so discovering its genus."

---

ous.

—It is said that bookworms may be exterminated rapidly and effectually by sprinkling the shelves of the cases twice a year with a mixture in equal parts of powdered camphor and snuff. Worms have a decided preference for dark-colored paper, and especially for the unglazed kinds. Light yellow highly glazed paper is seldom attacked.

of the poet Schiller died recently

To separate the leaves of charred books or deeds, cut off the back of the charred book so as to render the leaves absolutely independent from one another, then soak them, and dry them rapidly by a current of hot air. The leaves will then separate, but must, of course, be handled with extreme care.—*The Paper World.*

BOOK-WASHING.

How to Cleanse Soiled but Precious Volumes Without Injury.

One of the commonest operations in the trade, says the *Publishers' Circular*, is to wash a book that is stained or dirty. At the same time, there are but few who are adepts in the art—for so it may be called—of cleaning. A badly cleaned book, or one that has been imperfectly washed, contains seeds that, sooner or later, will lead it to destruction. One cause of the scarcity of good cleaners is that each one has some pet theory of his own, which he religiously keeps to himself; thus the knowledge is confined to the few, and wholesale destruction of books by ignorant and inexperienced hands is the result. To remedy this, we give below a few plain directions obtained from a practical cleaner—not without some little difficulty, and a rather severe test of our powers of persuasion.

Said he:—"When I get a book that wants washing the first thing to be done is to cut the stitches and separate the work into sheets. I then glance through it, pick out those leaves or sheets which are merely dirty, and separate them from those which have stains of ink, oil, or any of the numerous other stains which fall to the lot of books. Those pages which come under the first heading I place in a bath composed of a quarter of a pound of chloride of lime and the same quantity of soda, to about a quart of water. They should be left to soak until all discolor has faded away and the paper has regained its proper tint.

"When this change takes place I lift the pages—with very tender handling—into a second bath, this time of cold water, running water if possible, where they should be left at least six hours; longer will not harm them. This will remove all trace of the lime, which, if left, would rot and eventually destroy the book. This part of the cleaning is a very simple and easy matter, and one that should be accomplished by any one after a few trials.

"The paper, when thoroughly dried by exposure, must then be dipped into a third bath of size and water, and once again laid out to dry. This will restore the consistency to the paper. When this operation is complete it is better to give a few hours' pressure between glaze-boards in a press. This will generally be done for a trifling amount by any printer. The cleaning of the other pages is a matter of a little more difficulty; and before expertness is reached, some amount of experience will be found necessary. Don't start on a valuable book or one that you would not like destroyed; but invest a few pence at the nearest book-stall, where you will find plenty of material whereon to try your powers.

"In cases where only a part of a book has been washed, it is generally necessary to tone down the washed sheets to the tint of the rest of the book. This is a very delicate operation and needs great care, and some time will probably elapse before you get *au fait* at this. A good way is to soak some cheap tobacco—shag will do—in hot water, and dip the pages into the liquid. Stout and size are sometimes used for the same purpose.

"The first matter for consideration when about operating on a book is—what is the stain? Is it occasioned by water, grease, oil, coffee (of frequent occurrence), candle-droppings, or ink?

"If merely water-stained, the first mentioned process will be found sufficient, but if any other of the above are the cause of the marks, then the pages must be treated as follows:—Dilute spirits of salts with five times its bulk of water, and then let the oil-stained pages lie in the liquid for four minutes—not longer; remove and wash, as before, in cold water. To remove ink, a solution of oxalic, citric, or tartaric acids should be used, but great care must be taken in the after washing and sizing. If the grease is a mere spot in the middle of a page, place between two sheets of blotting-paper, or cover it with powdered French chalk (the blotting-paper is the more preferable), and pass a hot iron over the place. This will melt the grease, which is immediately soaked up by the chalk or paper.

"When the grease is removed in this way, then paint the spot with a little heated turpentine on a camel's-hair brush. Should the paper, as is very probable, lose its color by this operation, then, with a very fine handkerchief soaked in heated spirits of wine, press the place when the color will return. Another source of difficulty to the young cleaner is finger-marks. These are generally difficult to deal with; but the following method will usually conquer and erase them:—[illegible] mark with a piece of clean yellow soap, which leave on for two or three hours. Then wash with a sponge and hot water, after which the page should be dipped in weak acid and water. Give another bath of hot water, and then thoroughly cleanse with cold water.

"Ink-stains may invariably be removed by the following:—Dip in a strong solution of oxalic acid then in a solution of one part hydrochloric acid and six parts of water, after which bathe in cold water and allow to dry slowly. Chlorine water will also remove ink stains and, at the same time, bleach the paper, but the first method is the best.

"If you have any vellum covers that require cleaning, they may be made almost equal to new by washing with weak salts of lemon; or, if not much soiled, warm soap and water. If any of your bound books have grease on the covers, scrape a little pipe clay, Frenck chalk, or magnesia over the place,

HIADELPHIA, MONDAY,

and iron with a warm iron not too hot, or it will discolor the leather."

The above are a few recipes which have formed the base of operations of a practical cleaner for some years. Anyone with a little care and exactness in following the directions above may, after a few trials, become a tolerably expert cleaner. To the above we should like to add a few words—as impressive as we can make them—on the importance of thoroughly removing all traces of lime, acid, etc., from the book operated on. Rest assured that if you do not in time your book will be utterly and irrevocably destroyed. If you do not care to devote the time necessary to properly and thoroughly clean a book, do not, by "scamping the work," make yourself one of the many—alas, too many—enemies into whose hands books are often doomed to fall.

To wash and restore some of its "youthful beauty" and strength to a book is a good work, but to pretend to give it a new lease of life, while you are all the time only hastening its end, is to the lover of books a crime, worthy of the most exemplary punishment. In conclusion we have only to reiterate the advice given above for your own and their sakes—don't practice on good books at first, but wait until your hand is "in."

The Great Paris Bookbinder.—"There is," says *The Pall Mall Gazette*, "some difference of opinion as to who is the best bookbinder in London. Not so in Paris. If you want a volume bound in the highest style of art the man to go to is M. Cuzin, of the Rue Séguier. Go there and you will find a specimen of a real Parisian workshop. Up three pairs of stairs in a narrow street, very different from the blazing boulevards, where casual spectators think they are seeing Parisian life when they are really assisting at a cosmopolitan orgie held at Paris by the dissolute of all nations and both hemispheres, the door of the flat is in all probability opened to you by the wife of the great binder. Within are cupboards containing the stock of tools, worth perhaps £2,000, which form the necessary plant of an ambitious establishment, and morocco and other leather in every process of treatment, while the master workman himself in basque cap and brown holland blouse is working away at some pet specimen of his art, such as an *édition de luxe* of Moreau's *Monument du Costume*, which he has just completed in blue, with a 'doublure' (this is the term applied to the elaborated inside faces of the cover) of crimson morocco. Inside and out the whole ornamentation of this sumptuous binding has been carried out leaf by leaf and spray by spray, as the Frech say *à petits fers*, and you are not surprised to hear that M. Cuzin has sold it an English amateur for fifty napoleons. It only remains to add that M. Cuzin is a self-made man, the son of a tailor in a small town of Central France, who took early to bookbinding, and is now at the head of that handicraft in Paris, and perhaps in the world."

BOOKBINDING EXTRAORDINARY.

[To the Editor of the "Spectator."]

Sir,—In your review of Mr. Fitzgerald's "Book-Fancier," you quote some examples of eccentric bookbinding. Perhaps your readers may be interested to know that at the Hartley Institute, Southampton, is preserved a copy of the Bible, formerly belonging to Gilbert White of Selborne, which is bound in the skin of his favourite dog.—I am, Sir, &c.,

Winchester, May 24th. 1887 Linda Gardiner.

Bookbindings see the Bibliographer 2d vol. p. 53

Books bound in human skin see "Book Lore" May 1887. pp. 180 &c. & Le Livre April 1886 p. 212

Receipt for paste Library Journal vol. 2 p. 66.

Anglo Saxon poem on the bookworm see Earle's Anglo-Saxon Literature (32702. D.) p. 240

Queer binder's titles see Rimbault "Flyleaves" (52548. D.) p. 115

For method of restoring old books see Le Livre 1885 Bib. Moderne p. 601

List of books on bookbinding see Le Livre March 1886 p. 156 &c. also Guild's "Librarian's Manual" (14631. C.) p. 30.

"With that of the boke lozende were the claspes,
The margin was illumined al with golden railes,
And bice empictured with grass-oppes and waspes,
With butterflies and fresh pecocke tailes,
Englosed with floures and slymy snayles,
Envived pictures well touched and quickly,
It would have made a man hole that had be right sickly,
To beholde how it was garnished and bound,
Encovered over with gold and tissue fine,
The claspes and bullions were worth a M pounds
With balassis and carbuncles the border did shine
With aurum mosaicum every other line &c."

Skelton as quoted in
Timperly's dictionary, p. 235.

— · —

Some [illegible] Prices of bookbinding in 16th century
(54960. Q.J. p. 109.
" "

Papermaking
(54960 Q.) p. 113

"That weight of wood with leather coat o'erlaid" &c
Binding
See Crabbe, "The Library"

Bookworm - See "Why & Because" (cuttings about opening Phila. Lib.)

A Bookworm Alive.—On a recent visit to Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-on-Avon I found that the intelligent librarian, Mr. Richard Savage, had not only found one of these library pests, but that he had managed to keep it alive, (out of mischief, of course,) and at my request he has sent m[illegible] following particulars, which may [illegible]sting to entomologists and librari[illegible] says: "I found the little fellow [illegible] 1884, in our library, in a copy o[illegible] [illegible]rum Poetarum" of Edward [illegible] He had made his way only a[illegible] an inch up the back of the book [illegible] [illegible]ced him in a small pill box, and gave him a f[illegible] [illegible]ts of the back of an old book for food. On looking every day I always found him at the top of the box, so I concluded he wanted air, and I then pricked some holes through the top with a pin. He has since remained at the bottom of the box, feeding and growing till he has enlarged from about one-eighth of an inch to full three-sixteenths, and thicker in proportion. I have examined him carefully in the sunlight with an ordinary lens. He seemed disturbed by the light or heat, so I turned him on his back, and found that he had six legs at the fore part of his body, the hinder two being at about half his length; and these, no doubt, are of great use in his boring. He has a tiny dark-tipped nose, which seems very hard, and a head of a very light amber color. His body is of a transparent 'white-wax-like color,' and has hair upon it, for I noticed portions of the refuse of his mastications adhering to him a little distance from his skin. This is the third I have found here; the first in August last, which I foolishly destroyed. The second was found on Dec. 28 and lost; but the present specimen is alive, and apparently in good health this day, (April 18.) I shall be glad to show him to any one interested, or to give him to the Entomological Society, if he is sufficiently interesting to be examined." Another Stratfordian, Mr. John Marshall, of the "Old Curiosity Shop," Stratford, has at my request given me the results of his experience: "The bookworm is a small, light-colored grub, frequently found in old books which have been allowed to remain on the shelves undisturbed for a long time, and often allowed to get into a damp state. In all cases my experience leads me to believe that the bookworm originates in the decayed book shelves themselves. They seem to work continuously for their food, revolving round and round as they make their way, and their snout seems to be as hard as steel. They seem to be sometimes in a fly state and to deposit eggs too small to be seen by the naked eye."—*Notes and Queries.*

N. Y. Sunday Times May - July
1885

—A new book-stitching machine has been constructed by a German firm. Instead of wire or thread, a narrow but strong ribbon is used; and this method of stitching is said to unite all the advantages of the wire and thread methods without their drawbacks. A small chisel, connected with a hand-wheel, is set in motion to make holes for the ribbon, which is carried through it by means of double needles, the whole process being a very rapid one.

1885?

The recent utilization of Pranzini's s[illegible] to cover card cases has reminded the Par[illegible] ans of the old human-skin tanneries at Strasburg and Meudon, where the skins of the victims of the guillotine were made into book leather. Works in this binding may still be seen in the catalogues of [illegible] sales.—*London Graphic.*

Books bound in
human skin
Conches, "Causeries"
vol. 2. p. 172
2743. O. Eng.

A Native Welsh Book need not necessarily be bound in rabbit skin. The Princess of Wales has just accepted a dedicated volume of Welsh History and Geography, a juvenile school book, bound in Welsh gold from the Dolgelly mines, owned by Mr. Pritchard Morgan.

—There is a somewhat sentimental interest attached to the work of early German binders, from the fact that, as they stretched the leather over panels of beech wood (German, *buch*) they gave the English language a word (book) which is probably uttered as often as any other in the tongue. The Germans were not slow to increase the scope and variety of decorative treatment in their stamped leather work. To the Arabian interlaces they not only added many vine and leaf motives, such as the acanthus, the palmated leaf, etc., but in their hands the cutting of the intaglio stamp became a genuine work of art. Single figures of men and animals, yes, whole scenes, enclosed by the most fantastic borders, were stamped upon their book covers by the German binders of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In this art Germany easily distanced all competitors. The fact that the surface of the leather was far too rude a medium upon which to impress such elaborately carved designs did not seem to deter them from continuing the work. The usual scope of design was simply a plain border of vertical and horizontal bands, with the inner field subdivided into lozenge-shaped compartments, within which the binder stamped conventional leaves and flowers. Much of this early German stamped work was imitated by Caxton, Pynson and De Worde, who were their own binders. As the Gothic style of ornamentation was specially dominant in central Europe during the middle ages, it is not surprising that these early German book-covers should reflect the prevailing taste. A learned English writer upon this subject has divided them into heraldic, pictorial, geometric and grotesque. The heraldic binding exhibits the coats-of-arms, armorial devices, etc., of the reigning house; the pictorial is almost exclusively devoted to Scriptural subjects; the geometric takes its motive from Gothic architecture, as the lozenge-shaped compartments above mentioned are manifest reproductions of the cathedral window, while the grotesque is but imitation of the work of the illuminators, who mingle[illegible] man and fabulous beasts in the most fa[illegible] tastic style of ornament.—*The Ameri[illegible] Book Maker,*

Did It Too Thoroughly.

From the Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

There is such a thing as doing a piece of work too thoroughly. A Portland lady had a large family Bible that had belonged to her husband's mother and which both she and her husband highly prized. For twenty years they traveled a great deal and always took this Bible with them. Each Sunday on returning from church the lady wrote in the margin of this Bible opposite the passage that had formed the preacher's text the name of the minister and of the town where the sermon was given, also brief comments. A few months ago the couple came to Portland, and as the Bible was coming from the binding it was taken to a bookbinder's to be repaired. It is difficult to imagine the owner's feelings when, on again receiving the book, she found that the bookbinder had not only cut down the wide margin fully one-half, but had carefully gone through the book and erased nearly all the work of the lady's pencil during all these years. The book looked better, no doubt, but to the owner it was irreparably spoiled.

THE GROLIER, DIANE, AND POMPADOUR.

In "Bibliotheca Excellentissima," the books that have no other merit than may be attached to their bindings are classified under a sub-title of "Provenances Illustres," in black letter.

"Provenances Illustres" is not French of Paris, nor is it French of London, nor is it even catalogue French, for "books from famous libraries." A book valued for its former possessor in Paris may be called a "provenance" in a catalogue, but never a "provenance illustre," because the library that it came from or its former possessor was illustrious. "Provenance illustre" does not mean "de provenance illustre."

The "Télémaque" of Longepierre for which Brunet paid a fabulous price at the Parison sale is not a "provenance illustre" because it came from Longepierre, but because it is a celebrated book that caused the mania for "provenances" or derivations (perhaps the nearest equivalent) from famous libraries.

"Provenance" for a book from a famous library was not good enough French to be honored with admission into English. "Provenance illustre" does not apply to a single book in the "Bibliotheca Excellentissima," unless it be the imperfect Sussex folio Shakespeare, and even "de provenance illustre" would be extravagant flattery for the black-letter-titled books of the catalogue whose owners were so little illustrious that their names or qualifications are not known.

There are intelligent book lovers who collect fine bindings "de provenance illustre," Mr. Craig in England, Mr. Samuel P. Avery here; but if there are maniacs who gather books without regard to their subject matter or to the condition of their bindings, and simply because they bear the marks of possession of an illustrious personage, book lover or not, commend them to "Bibliotheca Excellentissima." It is the only auction sale catalogue that was ever made for them; it is the only bibliotheca that ever admitted ownership of books indifferent enough to be bunched in an alphabetical catalogue as "provenances illustres."

The ex-bibliotheca maniac, if he exists, must have, however, some system. If he collects books as others collect shoestrings or door knobs, he must have undeniable evidence to accompany his acquisitions. If anything is less interesting than a shoestring of Thackeray made yesterday, it must be a book of Grolier that might have been for Grolier, but is not shown to have been Grolier's, and is otherwise insignificant. Grolier's books were usually marked with his device in gold letters on the first cover, "Jo Grolierii et Amicorum." The books of Grolier which were not bound for him usually bore his signature at the end of the last page. He had books without device or signature.

Mr. Le Roux de Lincy, after many years of patient research, has compiled a life of Grolier and a catalogue of Grolier's books known to be extant.

One who would discover a book of Grolier not catalogued by Le Roux de Lincy would deserve a medal in Paris and the freedom of the city in London.

The Grolier collector marks on his book the number of its entry in the Le Roux de Lincy catalogue.

A Grolier book is of inestimable value. The prices depend on the condition and nature of the books, of course, but the prices are increasing sale by sale. In 1815, at the McCarthy-Reagh sale, 75f., or $15, was an extravagant price; at the Beckford, $1,500 was not surprising. Mr. Brayton Ives and Mr. Samuel P. Avery have Grolier books, marked with references to Le Roux de Lincy and a pedigree.

No. 574 of the Lenox-Kennedy collection is described as follows: "Grolier—Novum Testamentum. * * * Excessively rare, a superb example of Grolier from the Firmin-Didot collection, and with every page of the text ruled in carmine."

The volume is not marked with Grolier's device nor his signature, nor his earmark, nor anything that is Grolier's. It is not in the Le Roux de Lincy catalogue. In the appendix to his "Recherches sur Jean Grolier" Mr. Le Roux de Lincy names two books of the Firmin-Didot collection that were Grolier's. The "Novum Testamentum" is not one of them.

No. 555, "Henri II. and Diane de Poitiers," is of inestimable value—because it is ugly, and that is a great rarity in books of Diane de Poitiers, and because it is a small quarto, and most books of Diane de Poitiers were folios—if it has the mark of the Bibliotheca Colbertina or of the Duc de la Valliere Library, wherein passed most of Diane's books. It apparently has neither. It takes the space of a leaf in the catalogue, but does not refer to its number in the Pierre Gaudouin catalogue (No. 42,884 of the Mazarin collection) of the Château d'Anet Library. And it does not appear in the list made from that catalogue of Quentin-Bauchart's "Les Femmes Bibliophiles."

No. 576, the "Pompadour," a "12mo in mottled calf, gilt, red edges," is, perhaps, too insignificant to appear in the Quentin-Bauchart list, but No. 565, "Marie Antoinette," and No. 567, "Duchesse de Berri," in morocco, are not in Quentin-Bauchart.

Nos. 583 to 596 are "provenances illustres" of nondescript libraries and collectors.

It does not follow because a book is marked with the arms of Napoleon III. that it is "Napoleon the Third's copy," and neither Napoleon and Eugénie nor Louis Philippe could confer the least value upon any book, for they never gave evidence of interest in bibliomania. On the contrary, it was Louis Philippe who let the Comtesse d'Artois collection, containing valuable books of Marie Leczinska, go for naught at auction in 1840, and Napoleon III. who committed that monument to bad taste in bookmaking entitled "Jules César."

BOOKBINDING AT THE GROLIER CLUB.

The Grolier Club is to make an exhibition of modern bookbindings, comprising the best work of the French from Trautz—at whose death the Classicists, headed by La Roche-La Carelle, were quite sure that the great art of bookbinding had come to an end—to Kuban and De Semblancx; of the English from Bedford to Cobden-Sanderson; and of the American from Matthews to Bradstreets and Stikeman. The books are to be classified in the catalogue, prefaced by William Matthews, under the names of the binders, and there will be a glossary of the technical terms used in the descriptions.

There has never been in London or Paris, the only cities which could rival New-York in an undertaking like this, an exhibition of this importance. The first view, for members of the club, is to be given next Wednesday evening. Catalogues and invitations to the exhibition, which is to be continued until the second week of January, are to be distributed liberally among all those interested as handicraftsmen or lovers of art in books and bookbinding.

THE ART OF BOOKBINDING

IN WHICH AMERICA NOW LEADS THE WORLD.

POPULAR FALLACIES ABOUT THE ART—THE PROCESS OF ARTISTIC BOOKBINDING DESCRIBED.

No self-respecting bibliomaniac cares to encourage so shallow a sentiment as mere patriotism, but the American can beat the world in the art of bookbinding. And the politicians never say a word about it, never summon other nations to applaud or be forced to applaud, praise us for countless achievements that are insignificant, and pay us with nothing for our best title to fame but the most irritating taciturnity.

Bibliophilists believe that there is not much good in politicians. Mr. Roger Q. Mills thought of free wool and did not think of free Levant morocco. The duty on Levant morocco is 20 per cent. It costs an American bookbinder $5 for a piece of leather that is worth $4 in Paris.

There is no duty on bookbinding. One may send from New-York to London his "Lascaris Grammatica Græca," contribute £50 for its binding to the "pauper labor" of Europe and not a farthing for the protection of the American bookbinder, who would have had to pay a dollar for the leather, the Lascaris grammar printed in 1476 not coming under the ban of books under 20 years of age. That is a curiosity of the tariff and a national oddity. We "protect" everything wherein we think we excel except the only thing that it is truly great for a nation accounted material, inartistic, and money-making to surpass highly distinguished nations in—the art of bookbinding.

In the last canvass for President Mr. Brayton Ives was an Elector for one party and Col. Calvin S. Brice, Campaign Committee Chairman, for the other. Both are bibliophilists and bibliopegists, and since engaged in an "educational campaign" might have fought a battle of books, as in Boileau's "Le Lutrin," and added bibliopegia, which is more interesting than statistics to their curricul[illegible] pass a golden opportunity.

Knowledge of the differen[illegible] and bad bookbinding, the inability [illegible] to take the place of handicraft, and the practical utility of good taste should be general enough to deter lawyers from binding their reference books in the hideous, yellowish, precarious sheepskin they affect and the subscription book concerns from stamping ugly symbolical dies on their cloth or cheap leather covered book envelopes.

We should have less costly, gaudy books, give work to more men, make artists and artisans, instead of artists and automatic press-feeders. A machine-bound book may be cut, sewed, thrown into prepared covers, and glued therein in five minutes. By hand it would have taken a month; wherefore we say that we have progressed; but the machine-bound book is ugly and short lived, whereas the other would be for all time.

Sheepskin and calfskin ought never to have been used for book covers; white vellum is pretty if well treated, but not suited to our climate. Pigskin is the most serviceable of leathers and Levant morocco the richest and most appropriate for a book that is worth binding well. There was a superstition about Russia leather that its smell was destructive to maggots, but the book worm is a curiosity in this country, and when Andrew Lang tells you to "let paneled Russia leather array a folio of Shakespeare," it is as a poet that he counsels, for the bibliophilist is well aware that no leather is more ephemeral than that called "Russia."

When the patrons of literature paid fabulous prices for their manuscripts, when the art of bookmaking was a well-kept secret of austere monks, the salvation of whose souls, according to the rules of their orders, depended on the accuracy of a letter, books were greater treasures than the diamonds and precious stones with which were studded the caskets of gold that inclosed them. After the invention of printing, the pillaging of Johann Faust's press-room by the invaders of Mentz and the announcement in print of Columbus's discovery the place for a book ceased to be a reliquary.

Arrayed in boards of oak, covered with vellum or pigskin, stamped in relief with pious images and a wealthy patron's escutcheon, closed with clasps of metal as delicately worked as the buckle of a lady's belt, a book like Koberger's Nuremberg Chronicle, printed in 1493, containing impressions of 2,250 woodcuts by Michael Wolgemuth, master of Albert Durer and William Pleydenwurff, was a monumental rival to the cathedral of stone.

When the Renaissance graced all arts, bookbinding, having a protector in Jean Grolier, who had lived in Italy and cultivated there the friendship of Aldus, got more than its share of acanthus and arabesque.

Mr. Bernard Quaritch printed in 1886 30 copies of a catalogue of "52 books from royal and princely libraries, described in chronological arrangement as an illustration of two centuries of artistic bookbinding." It was an epitome of the whole history of bookbinding from Grolier to the end of the eighteenth century. Divided into classes, it contained in French binding one example of early stamped work and thirty examples of the artistic schools that are numbered: First, Valois to Grolier, (1542-1572;) second, Eve, (1570-1615;) third, Le Gascon, (1610-1645;) fourth, Bourbon to Boyer, (1605-1750.) How purely democratic is bibliopegia in its alternating eras of royal families and great bookbinders!

The catalogue contained nine examples of the Italian binding, the first artistic school of which is Venetian, (1540-1570,) and the second, stamped work, (1550-1620;) eight examples of the English binding, the first artistic school of which is Grolieresque, (1549-1560;) the second, Veneto-Lugdunesque, (1560-1610;) the third, Le Gasconesque, (1660-1680;) the fourth, English, or "Home Development," (1550-1750;) one of the German, Stamped-Italianesque, (1569;) two of the Flemish, the Grolieresque, (1555,) and the Embroidered, (1615,) and one of the Swedish, (1580.) They were examples [illegible] the work executed for Pope[illegible] and Pius V., Emp[illegible] great [illegible]

One who was privileged to examine these books in their modern home, Haverstock-terrace, Haverstock Hill, N. W., London, needed no other instruction in the history of the art of bookbinding, and was taught it better than by volumes of detailed description. He certainly concurred in the opinion of Mr. De Laborde that "bookbinding is an art all French." Compared to the work of the French, from the men who worked for the Valois King, Francis I., to Padeloup; from the men who worked for Grolier to the fall of the Bourbon dynasty, all other bookbinders are under the mark. They copy the decoration, but fail in the solidity; they gain the solidity and sacrifice the gracefulness. The English, who were pretentious of their attainments, after Dibdin had made his bibliographical tour in France and hurled Roger Payne at poor Bozerian, that the French bibliopegist was first to ridicule, have never learned the art that Grolier taught. With them, according to their work, it is only a question of ornamentation.

If you wish your book to be bound in the Grolier style it will be returned to you with the boldly-traced gold lines that Grolier affected, but with nothing of the gracefulness that molds a leather covering on a book like a glove on a hand, and makes it beautiful beyond all opinion. Roger Payne had originality. His aim was to make a binding that would wear, to ornament it in his own way with plainly-figured corners, not to reach for the unattainable. He knew his limitations. One may easily become an enthusiast of Roger Payne's work. It is so sincere. As Dibdin favored him, Lord Spencer gave him his patronage. The item in his bill for the "Æschylus," which is regarded as his best work, is:

> "Finished in the most magnificent manner, embroidered with ermine, expressive of the high rank of the noble patroness of the designs, the other parts finished in the most elegant taste, measured with the compasses. It takes a great deal of time making out the different measurements, etc., £12 12s."

In this century England has produced Bedford, who was a great artist, and after Bedford—the deluge. English binding is represented now—it cannot be misrepresented—by the sons of Riviere, the son of Zachensdorf, and Mr. Sanderson, and the English have so little interest in the art of bookbinding that Mr. Wheatley, wishing to publish a book of the examples in the British Museum similar to the one made by M. Henri Bouchot for the Bibliothèque Nationale, feels constrained to publish it in Paris. Mr. Sanderson is an amateur bookbinder. He does not bind a book that contains a phrase that he disapproves of, and, being a Socialistic man of wealth, is hard to please. He does not entertain advice. His price is enormous. I think it was Lacroix or Fournier who said of Bozerian that "he charged exorbitant prices to make believe he had talent." Mr. Sanderson is an agreeable case binder, but that is not the art of bookbinding.

In France this was the golden age of the art. Purgold, Bauzonnet, Trautz, Bauzonnet-Trautz, Trautz-Bauzonnet, Simier, Petit, Capé, Thouvenin, Duru, Chambolle, Chambolle-Duru, Gruel-Engelman, Gruel, Marius, Michel, Marius-Michel, Lortic, Belz-Niédrée, encouraged by an army of ardent collectors that Nodier, Pixerecourt, Lacroix, Janin, and Tenant de Latour were constantly urging, fairly surpassed their masters. The bibliophilistic army had at its head the Duc d'Aumale and Baron James E. de Rothschild, counted for its officer Baron Pichon, Dutuit, Count Lignerolles, B[illegible] La Roche-Lacarelle, Edouard Bocher, [illegible]neuve, Marquis Ganay, Baron Seillière, [illegible]ald Double, Count Sauvage,

Eugène Paillet, Abbé Bossuet, Baron Count Béhague, Baron Portalis, Q Bauchart, Michelot, Prince Essling, Brissac, Bancel, Gonzales, Count Foy, ma recruits every day from England, Spain, Italy, Russia, Germany, and had the United States in reserve.

Now there is not enough enthusiasm in any chronicler to describe the battles that were fought on the quays in the Passage des Panoramas, the Passage Choiseul, the Hôtel Drouot, where bibliomania had such sway that one would have thought there was nothing else in Paris. Now you cannot count the dead. Aumale is in exile, Rothschild is in another planet, and the libraries of Pichon, La Roche-Lacarelle, Seillière, Double, Paillet, Bossuet, Portalis, Quentin-Bauchart, and Essling, have been broken in a thousand fragments by the mallet of the auctioneer.

"C'est la reserve qui donne!" It is a magnificent legion, and its leaders, in alphabetical order, are Andrews, Appleton, Avery, Armour, Barlow, Bangs, Bispham, Bierstadt, Braëm, Brice, Bowker, Castle, Ch[illegible], Chittenden, Cole, Cable, Childs, De Fo[illegible], De Vinne, Dick, Dix, Drake, Emmet, Fr[illegible]er, Furniss, Gallup, Harper, Hawkins, Hoe, Ives, Keppel, Laffan, Marié, Mifflin, Purdy, [illegible]ribner, Seligman, Shugio, Smith, Sturgis, Tiffany, Tuckerman, Turnure, Vanderbilt, "j'en passe et des pareils." One could aim at no higher mark than to be their Geoffroy de Villehardouin, the simple chronicler of their yeomanry.

Octave Uzanne wears admirably the mantle of Lacroix and Nodier, and is more than faithful to his trust of keeping Paris in the van of bibliomania; but what will you have? It is the reserve that is in action.

One constantly hears of the difficulty for an artisan to make a fortune, even in the United States; that all the good places are taken; that tradesmen remain tradesmen; that there is nothing new under the sun, and yet for all the book lovers of our country there are, now that William Matthews has retired, only two binderies—Stikeman's and Bradstreet's. The bookbinder who would become an artistic bookbinder needs only to study the examples of artistic bookbinding which may be found in the Lenox and Astor Libraries, or to read the innumerable manuals that have been printed on the subject. For his guidance he could not find better teachers than the bibliophilists.

Mr. Duprat is surprising in his ability to obtain extraordinary work from ordinary workingmen. He is a great bibliopegistic pedagogue, simply because he knows and knows how to tell what he desires. I have heard him in his cozy library room in Fifth-avenue, where collectors meet to talk of books for hours without intermission for politics or gossip, give detailed directions for the binding of a book that were [illegible] patient application. As the [illegible] Jouaust's Librairie des Biblio- [illegible]ned a china paper copy of its [illegible]misso's "Peter Schlemihl," [illegible]awings and a special aquarelle [illegible]n called for Stikeman, gave him [illegible] his ideas, entered into the de[illegible]ication, and produced the [illegible] adorning the col-

The forwarder "rounds" the back of the book, fits the boards, and cuts the edges with the "plow." The boards were originally of wood, but are now of thick paper, and may be as heavy as tombstones if the forwarder lacks judgment. The plow is the same instrument that Guttenberg used for his Bible, no machine invented in four centuries of experience having its merit. It is a sharp steel knife laid flat in a wooden guillotine that the workman pushes to and from him to pare the edges of the book and square them with the boards. The latter must necessarily project a little, evenness of boards with edges of pages that threatened to be a fad in London contributing to a book nothing but facility to spoil. The edges are then gilded and the boards are covered.

When dry the book comes to the "finisher" for lettering and ornamentation with hot tools of brass. Unless the ornamentation is Jansen—short for Jansenist or "blind tooling"—that is, not gilt, gold leaf is applied by moistening the leather with glair of egg. When the book is "finished" it is pressed in a hand press between thick metal plates.

A handsomer trio than the men who are doing this work at Bradstreet's never tempted the brush of a missal illuminator or posed for a woodcut by Martin Schoen. Mr. Moore, though quite young, is the peer of Trent and Toedteberg as an inlayer, and has done much difficult repairing of ill-used ancient manuscripts and precious autographs. Mr. Smith, who has served under Matthews, is the "forwarder," and to the practical life experience of his work he adds an intimate knowledge of the history of his craft. Attentive to criticism and ready to discuss with the bibliophilist in the most unassuming manner the merits or faults of his work in comparison with that of other "little masters," he has his heart in every book that has come out of the Bradstreet bindery for a quarter of a century. Mr. Kirby, the "finisher," whose classic head would make an ideal frontispiece for a "Poëme sur la Reliure" by a modern Lesné, has passed through the different stages of a bookbinder's education in a workshop, without aiming at another end than perfection in his art. It is singular in this age and in this country that he never wavered in his purpose to do his best for the glory of bookbinding, content to be unknown, as were the workmen of the Eves, if only the temptation to be a mechanical bookbinder would not turn his head. Now that his hair is white, I suppose he has all the happiness that he was working for in the knowledge that the excellence of American bookbinding is an accomplished fact.

Its own merit is in its squareness of workmanship and elegance of finish; the faults of its contemporaries are in England entire incapacity, and in France a riot of decoration. The situation in France is, as it was at the end of the eighteenth century, when no salvation could come except from the utter simplicity of Derome and Bozerian. Instead of looking to the "forwarding" that must be the chief consideration, since a book needs not to be bound at all if the binding is not to give it solidity and elegance, the rage is for the "finishing." And the French arrive at this strange conclusion—binding, a background or a pretext for a pretty "finish," instead of the "finish" an accessory to the workmanship.

DAVID GAMUT.

A TRIUMPH OF THE BOOKBINDERS' ART.

If Thackeray, who loved everything that denoted the beauty of refined fancy and elegance of execution in art, and who had the fondness of Lamb for fairly printed and sumptuously bound books, could but come back to us for a brief while and turn over with mortal fingers the creamy, crisp, thick leaves of his own Book of Snobs, which those cunning and skilled masters of the binders' art, Pawson & Nicholson, have bound so fitly, he would feel, we think, a glow of pleasurable pride in his humorous, satirical work exceeding any that was permitted him before he went away upon his long journey.

There are three great qualities in a well-bound book, solidity, elasticity, elegance, and this one has them all in their most perfect state. The history of it, for it is the only one of its kind, we are informed, in this country, is interesting. It is the fourteenth volume of a most luxurious edition of Thackeray's complete works, published in London, and was sent to this country in the original sheets by the publisher of one of the leading daily newspapers of that city—a gentleman of refined, scholarly tastes and a devoted lover of noble books in noble dress—to be bound by Pawson & Nicholson, the fame of whose work long ago reached far beyond the British Capital. The other thirteen volumes have been respectively bound by as many other eminent masters of the art in Germany, Italy, France, England and other countries; this one, the Book of Snobs, alone being sent to the United States, and our own townsmen being the only Americans complimented by the opportunity to compete with their foreign rivals in the binding of the set. The volume is in form an imperial octavo, and has been bound by Messrs. Pawson & Nicholson in full blue levant morocco, with gilt top, being finished on the outside in the Charles Lewis style, with fine lines. Lewis was a famous London bookbinder of the 18th century, of whose work Dr. Dibdin says: "His books appear to move on silken hinges; his joints are beautifully squared and wrought upon with studded gold." All this may be just as truly said of Pawson & Nicholson's work as shown in the volume under notice, the inside of which is double-lined with delicate colored buff English calf and with morocco joints; it has fine tooled borders, and is filled in with interlacing line work, in the style of the great French binder, Grolier. There are also fly leaves of calf to match the inner lining on the boards.

We do not know how the binders of the other thirteen volumes of this noble edition of Thackary have executed their respective tasks, but we should have to have ocular proof of their superiority as master binders to convince us that books can anywhere be bound more solidly, elastically or elega[illegible]y, or more sumptuously and in a higher [illegible]rit of artistic fancy or refined taste, than in this country, in this city, by the firm whose work we have herein mentioned.

THE CRIMINAL COLONIES.

BOOKS IN FINE BINDING.

The Publications of the Grolier Club. The Book-Maker's Art.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE TIMES.

NEW YORK, January 14.—"A marked evidence of increasing wealth and cultivation in this country," said a publisher yesterday, "is the growing taste for handsome books. Here is the latest publication of the Grolier Club," he continued, taking down a beautiful edition of Reade's "Peg Woffington."

The book is in two small volumes, daintily bound in white and gold cloth. The rich, heavy paper is wide margined, and the printing has that quality of clear, solid color for which the old black-letter volumes of three hundred years ago are famous. It is the sixth publication of the Grolier Club, an organization of book lovers formed in 1884, as its constitution declares, "for the literary study and promotion of the arts pertaining to the production of books." The other works published by the club include a rich edition of the "Rubiyat of Omar Kayam," and Irving's Knickerbocker, with the final corrections of the author, the latter never before published.

The Grolier Club publishes books merely for love of the book-maker's art. Its publications are costly, though not so much so as many others. The taste displayed is of a severe kind. As the club has less than 200 members and as publications are sold to very few persons not belonging to the organization, its books are issued in very small editions.

The members of the Grolier Club are by no means the only persons in this country that indulge a luxurious taste for books in special editions.

The Odd Volume Club, of Boston, has much the same object, and many private individuals permit themselves a like indulgence. A gentleman of this city recently had published in full morocco a few letters of an ancestor. The edition numbered one hundred copies. Of course it was exclusively for private circulation. Another book-lover published at his own expense a reprint of the first edition of Sterne's "Sentimental Journey." The work could not be made an exact fac simile of the original, but it was made as nearly so as possible. Still another New Yorker has had published for private circulation small, rich editions of Frederick Locker's poems and Edmund Clarence Stedman's poems. There were less than two hundred copies of each, but they cost a pretty figure.

A fruitful source of profit to the printing houses of this city is the publication of costly memorial volumes. The pupils of a famous school up in Connecticut, finding that they had a fund in hand after erecting a monument to the dead principal, determined to print a memorial volume in his honor. The sons of many well-known persons, among others those of Thomas C. Platt and Henry Ward Beecher, had attended the school, and plenty of subscribers to the volume were found. A well-known artist was employed to illustrate the book and a famous printing house of this city turned out a very beautiful volume for the memorialists.

A Federal Judge of New Orleans, whose summer home is in New Haven, recently issued a rich volume in memory of a near relative. It is bound in black morocco and lettered in silver. On the outside it is rather gloomy and forbidding, but within the volume is a marvel of the book-maker's art. It is printed on heavy hand-made paper such as sells at half a dollar a pound by wholesale. The illustrations are etchings on india paper. They show half a dozen charming scenes in shaded works of New Haven. Only 275 copies were issued and the book cost $8 a volume.

One of the oddest books in this country is a bound volume that has never been published. Perhaps not more than one hundred persons have seen it. The edition numbers just one copy and it was manufactured by Howard Pyle, the artist and author, who, by the way, usually designs not only the illustrations for his published books, but also the covers. This particular book was made by Mr. Pyle as the register of the "Quill and Grill," a little literary society of Wilmington, Del., now defunct, to which he once belonged. It is a long, narrow book of rich antique paper. The binding is of heavy sole leather tooled in quaint designs. In lieu of clasps the book has stout leather strings tied in bow knots.

……

—An exchange explains that [illegible] following method of binding books liable to rough usage has been patented by a resident of Switzerland: After the sheets have been folded, collated and pressed, they are glued on the back. The blank paper, glued inside on both parts of the binding boards, receives linen folds. After these blank papers have been glued or pasted, the book is trimmed on the three sides and a board lap glued along the back. The book is then glued into its binding. The holes for the rivets are punched by a machine, and little metal plates, placed along both sides of the back of the book, are riveted with wire having little heads. The sewing of single sheets, which involves great loss of time, is done away with in this binding.

……

A BATTLE OF BOOK LOVERS.

AN IMPENDING CONFLICT BETWEEN MODERNISTS AND CLASSICISTS.

In Paris, on the 13th and eleven following days of this month, a quarrel begun more than fifty years ago by Charles Nodier's praise of Thouvenin, a bookbinder romanticist, is to lead to a great battle at the Hôtel Drouot—a battle of classicists and modernists as at the first performance of Hugo's "Hernani," but with the relative situations reversed: in action the classicists, reactionary the others.

The occasion is the sale of the library formed by M. Hippolyte Destailleur, comparable only to the libraries formed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by owners of mansions with halls wider than deserted prairies. There are 2,004 lots in the catalogue made by Damascène Morgand, divided classically into Arts of Design, Theology, Jurisprudence, Sciences, and Arts, excluding Arts of Design, Belles Lettres, and History. There are all the books that the modernists affect to detest; books indispensable to Bernard de Rieux, Garnier de Montigny, Girardot de Préfond, Lauraquais, La Vallière, whether they liked or disliked them; books of piety, learning, erudition; grave, severe, solemn; books for Benedictine monks, and sad and bent students in the reserved sections of the Nationale and the Mazarine.

Nodier, librarian of the Arsenal, was not an enemy to these books, but praised in Thouvenin an artist independent of them and of their severity. Thouvenin was a bookbinder, with ideas of his epoch. Until 1860 he was the only bookbinder, not a mere copyist, of the century. Then came Trautz and Bauzonnet, but even they, unsupported by any Nodier, lacked his daring. It was not until Octave Uzanne had attained authority in Paris as a writer on bibliomania that Amand, Ruban, Joly, Marius-Michel, and others produced the novel work admired at the Grolier Club exhibition last December.

Successful in that revolution, Uzanne attacked the tyranny of classicism in the art of bookmaking, changed the title of his monthly review from *Le Livre* to *Le Livre Moderne*, formed with amazing rapidity a "Société des Bibliophiles Contemporanes," supervised the publication of "César Borgia," written by Jean Richepin, illustrated by Georges Rochegrosse, a superb volume, adding to precept the authority of example; and now, as the popularity of his views is clearly demonstrated by the fact that he had only to express them bravely in order to be acclaimed as the leader of a legion, another tyranny is to be overthrown. It is the tyranny of classicism in bibliomania.

The catalogues in this city are in the hands of Mr. Duprat, in sympathy with the modernists; protector of Ruban, De Semblancx, Fitz, Henriot, Avril; a member of the Grolier Club, but not anchored in incunabula, Roger Payneism, Americana and Elizabethan literature. Clearly, the Destailleur sale is doomed. And yet it is superb. The Destailleur sale may be, financially, a failure; artistically it will still be a triumph. If the modernists defeat it, their victory will not last forever; but it will be a great victory, for of the Destailleur library, the following books are typical varieties: Dürer's "Little Passion," 1511, the artist's presentation copy to Grapheus; "Dell Arte del Ben Morire," Venice, about 1500; Berthier's copy with an original drawing by Carle Vernet of the "Relation de la Bataille de Marengo"; descriptions of triumphant entries of Kings; St. Maximus, 1562, bound with the arms of Charles IX.; the "Champfleury," 1529, in ancient binding; "Pluvinel," 1623, copy of Louis XIII.; La Borde's "Chansons," Mme. de la Borde's copy, bound by Derome; original editions of Molière; Rabelais, 1558, copy of Louis XII. and Ann of Austria; "Gil Blas," 1795, illustrations, proofs before letters, and etchings; Mme. de Sévigné, copy of the Grignan library; "L'Esprit de M. Arnauld," 1684, Mme. de Chamilliart copy; "Livre de la Conqueste de la Toison d'Or," 1563, Duc de Guise copy; "Annales du Régne de Marie-Thérèse, 1775, Comtesse d'Artois copy; collections of plate by Moreau, Marillier, and the rest.

TO CONNECT TWO CONTINENTS.

OLD PENN WEEKLY REVIEW.

Burton A. Konkle Calls Attention to the Ridgway Library.

The following letter will be of interest to many University members and alumni. It concerns the value and importance of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library. The letter was received from the founder, and former curator, of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Museum, in the Law School Building, of the University:

"Editor of OLD PENN:

"I have had for many years a great admiration for the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library, and I know that its collection is most widely appreciated among the most scholarly men in our city. I have wondered, therefore, why I had never seen any public expression of this appreciation, in the face of not infrequent press references to it in a critical tone. Of course, I am peculiarly interested in it as an historical treasure. Think what it means for a quasi-public library of the ancient, or early metropolis and capital of America, with all the culture that that implies, being a choice contemporary collection of the best books every year practically for one hundred and seventy-five years. Why there's nothing equal to it in America in this one respect alone. Indeed, in a certain sense, an even longer period is covered, for books were added to it that had become famous in the generation previous to 1731 when they began to buy. For instance, a few days ago Thomas' little book on Pennsylvania, issued about thirty-three years before that, was sold by Henkels for above $800. This old library had four copies of it, and still has two. A few years ago I found a letter from a Philadelphia judge to a Scotch physician near Aberdeen. The judge was a member of this old library at that date, 1794, and drew the attention of the physician to an incident related in a copy of Boswell's 'Johnson', which he had just glanced over in the library. The incident was about an unnamed physician, and the judge wanted to know if it was his correspondent, and it proved so to be. That very volume which the judge used is there now—not a later tion, nor a recent reprint, which ght not include the addenda which e first edition had. Have you ever oked at a geography of the United States, say in 1827—or a geography of he world for that matter? You can find it there, and it will be a revelation to you, if you have never tried it. These illustrations suggest the possibilities in our use of this great collection, a collection by the way, which scholars cross the ocean to consult, and not infrequently either. Curiously enough, the quest of some of these visitors from abroad is its superb collection of ancient classics. This latter was the finest one in America, in Franklin's youth, and is one of the rare ones of the world now.

"The University would do a great public service if it could get a man like Dr. Mitchell to lecture on the great treasures of Philadelphia, for this library is only, in some respects, the chief among many.

"Sincerely.

"(Signed) BURTON ALVA KONKLE."

In the Century Magazine for May, 1883, is a very interesting article on this old institution by its present librarian, Mr. Samuel, which should be read by any one who is interested in this subject

---

RIDGWAY LIBRARY

A Historian's View of the Value of Its Collection.

To the Editor of Public Ledger.

Occasionally the Ridgway Branch of the old Philadelphia Library is mentioned in the press and I think almost without exception with an air of criticism. The recent suggestion that it be "popularized" reminds me of this peculiar phenomenon, for it certainly is strange that there should be so little published appreciation of this great institution. Doubtless what is wanting is a "popularized" knowledge of what this famous library is; for certainly, in international fame, no library in Philadelphia will compare with it, unless it be that of the American Philosophical Society.

It doesn't seem to be "popularly" realized that this is the one institution in America which has been a choice contemporary library practically every year for a hundred and seventy-five years, with the result that this accumulation is unique in America and rare anywhere. If Philadelphia were to be attacked by a foreign fleet, when the shells began to explode destruction to our great institutions, this collection would be among the first in the apprehension of most scholarly men of our city, for it could not be replaced. Without any qualification one can truly say this collection is one of the treasures of America and its value will increase with the centuries. Men of wealth may build up great collections in various parts of our land—and they are doing wonderful things in that line—but this collection at Locust and Ridgway grew—it cannot be built.

BURTON ALVA KONKLE.

Swarthmore, October 23, 1907.

Moral Value of Play.

To the Editor of Public Ledger.

about Sunday play at League

WOULD POPULARIZE THE RIDGWAY LIBRARY

South Philadelphia Business Men's Association to Debate Matter.

TO RECLAIM MEADOWS

When the South Philadelphia Business Men's Association holds its first fall meeting in Odd Fellows' Hall, Broad and Federal streets, tonight, it will find a big winter's work mapped out for it by President John Burt.

Mr. Burt, vice president of the Southwark Mills and recently appointed to the Board of Education, believes that the meadow land below Shunk street should be raised to grade and developed, and that the Ridgway Library should be "popularized."

Ex-Common Councilman John J. Orr is chairman of the municipal committee, which is considering the meadow land question, while W. J. Hill's sectional advancement committee is wrestling with the library puzzle, complicated by the restrictions in the will of Dr. James Rush, founder of the library.

President Burt believes that the filling in of the low lands south of Shunk street can be accomplished, and hopes for aid from the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries. If the project is realized, it will not only increase the value of the land, but will give south Philadelphia a water front. Elimination of grade crossings is another problem the association will endeavor to solve.

Officers of the organization are John Burt, president; O. P. Waldron, vice president; Thomas McCaffrey, treasurer; John J. Guerin and J. E. Lennon, secretaries. Committee chairmen are: J. E. Lennon, United Business Men's Association representatives; Thomas J. Lappin, membership; John H. Bailey, entertainment; Joseph P. Rogers, law; O. P. Waldron, ways and means; O. L. Ehmann, transportation; John J. Orr, municipal; W. J. Hill, sectional advancement.

Noel's Circulating
Liby. - ad. in
N. Y. Gazette
or Weekly Post
Boy. Sept. 26, 1765

DOWNTOWN WORKERS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

First Fall Meeting Considers Variety of Sectional Questions.

W. S. VARE A SPEAKER

Members of the South Philadelphia Business Men's Association, at their first fall meeting held in Odd Fellows' Hall, Broad and Federal streets, last night, agreed to take up and agitate the filling in of the low lands south of Shunk street, the "popularizing" of the Ridgway library, the abolition of grade crossings in the downtown section, the completion of League Island Park and the obtaining of sufficient additional funds to finish the Passyunk avenue bridge.

All these improvements were urged upon the membership by John Burt, the new president of the organization.

Recorder William S. Vare attended the meeting and spoke in favor of the general plans. He dwelt on the recent agitation for a $5,000,000 school loan and said that the movement had more in it than showed on the surface. He explained the difficulties in finishing the South Broad street boulevard, and assured his hearers that he "looked forward with much pleasure to anticipated public improvements."

Former Councilman John J. Orr and Henry G. Morris also spoke.

WANT PLAYGROUNDS AT RIDGWAY LIBRARY

New Associations Decides to Ask Big Lawn for Children.

FIRST MEETING HELD

Will it disturb the readers if the grounds of the Ridgway Library, Broad and Christian streets, are turned over to the city for a children's playground?

When the question was asked at the first meeting of the Children's Playground Association, held in Room 696, City Hall, yesterday afternoon, a universal smile went round.

"The readers?" said Herman L. Duhring, Jr., whose suggestion it was that the trustees of the library be asked for the use of the ground. "There is only an average of about eight a day."

"I think you overestimate the number," said Professor Edwin J. Houston, gravely. "I have met a man there occasionally, but never eight at once."

Others present poked fun at the sarcophagus of 'earnig on South Broad street, and all agreed that while hundreds of little ones in the neighborhood are clamoring for a place to play, it is shameful to let so much ground be idle.

In spite of the fact that Mr. Duhring reported Librarian Samuels' opposition to the desecration of the ground by an incursion of children, a resolution was adopted for several members of the board to confer with the trustees on the matter.

The meeting, which was largely attended by representative men and women, including bankers, lawyers, manufacturers, professors, settlement workers and club women, was held for the purpose of forming a permanent organization, adopting a constitution and by-laws and electing a board of managers.

The object of the association as outlined in the constitution is to promote the public playground movement in the city and secure the opening of public squares for recreation purposes.

The following were elected to the board:

Lucien H. Alexander	Martin G. Brumbaugh
Judge William H. Staake	William Stecher
Rabbi Henry Berkowitz	James E. Gorman
Rev. P. R. McDevitt	John H. Converse
Dr. R. Tait McKenzie	G. S. Fels
Dr. Edwin J. Houston	Mrs. J. Harrison O'Hara
M. C. O'Brien	Dr. Oliver P. Cornman
James A. Flaherty	Miss M. Blakiston
George W. Orton	Miss Sophia Ross
Charles T. Walker, 3d	Mrs. Owen Wister, Jr.

A meeting to elect officers will be held next week.

Denominational or sectarian questions will not be acceptable.

Suggests a Park Around the Ridgway Library

To the Editor of "The Bulletin."

Sir: While the city is seeking places for small parks, why not try to get consent from the persons having control of the vacant portion of the square of ground located between 13th, Broad, Christian and Carpenter, which this Ridgway Library is built on. For such purpose the dead wall around it is an eye sore. If placed under the care of this city it could be made a beautiful place at little expense and be a means of attracing more attention to the library.

J. E. McDERMOTT.

Bulletin
Mar. '07

---

rose, all of this city.

The Directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia are happy in announcing to their fellow citizens, that although some valuable books have been destroyed, and others injured, by the fire on the 6th instant, in the apartment of the Loganian Library, the loss sustained by the public, in the valuable Institutions under their care, proves much less than was at first apprehended.

The destruction of an original portrait of James Logan, the distinguished Donor of the Library bearing his name, and of a bust of the venerable Founder of Pennsylvania, is however, a subject of great regret to them.

To the prompt and energetic exertions of the Fire and Hose Companies, particularly the Pennsylvania and Fame, whose location enabled them to bring their powerful apparatus into almost immediate action, the preservation of the Library is chiefly attributable.

The fire originated in the breastwork of the chimney, from a grate recently fixed in the Loganian Library, with a view to the greater security afforded by a coal fire.

The presence of the Directors, at one of their stated meetings, in an upper room of the Philadelphia Library, fortunately prevented any delay in the introduction of water, and enables them to exonerate their Librarian, and those employed by him, from any imputation of negligence.

WILLIAM RAWLE, Jr. Secretary.

January 7th, 1831.

P. L. ([illegible])
3598. Q
vol. 2 p. 80

P. L. on
+ pages
Franklin's
works

What the Earth Is Made Of.

Bunford Samuel, librarian at the Ridgeway branch, tells this one: One day last week, just as Mr. Samuel was about to close the library and betake himself homeward, an excited individual entered and begged to be accommodated with a book. Mr. Samuel knew that compliance would cause him to miss his train, but he felt that the sacrifice would be well made if he could assist the applicant. "What book do you want?" asked Mr. Samuel. "I want a Bible," was the reply. The Bible was produced, and the visitor sat down to scan its pages. After a few minutes he got up, handed the Bible back to Mr. Samuel, and remarked: "It hasn't got what I want." Inquiry elicited the information that the visitor wanted to know what the earth was made of, but all Genesis told was that God made the earth, without specifying the ingredients. Mr. Samuel was unable to enlighten the inquisitive patron, who went away diappointed. Mr. Samuel missed his train.—*Philadelphia Record.*

TH

attributed to the nervous shock on learning of the sudden death of his brother.)

Dr. Rush and the Ridgway Library

To the Editor of "The Bulletin."

Sir: Kindly publish the words used by Dr. Rush in his last will scoring the newspapers and barring them from the Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library, Broad and Christian sts.

MACK.

(Dr Rush was a wealthy Philadelphia physician of somewhat eccentric habits and unusual opinions. He especially entertained a fierce dislike to newspapers and their practices. In the will containing the bequest of $1,000,000 for the building of the library at Broad and Christian sts., known as the "Ridgway Library" he requested that no newspapers should be kept on file therein, describing such publications as "vehicles of disjointed thinking." The library is under the control of the Philadelphia Library and has never been popular with scholars or general readers. Its patronage is hardly sufficient to warrant its existence.)

rding Davis

Project of a reading room
Port Folio Feb. 1814. p. 105

RIDGWAY LIBRA UNIQUE MEMORIAL

Constructed With Funds Left by Dr. James Rush, Who Died in 1869

$130,000 PAID FOR LAND

A building which never fails to attract admiration and which many consider one of the handsomest structures in Philadelphia is that of the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library at Broad and Christian streets, which was built by funds left by the will of Dr. James Rush, who died in 1869, as a memorial to his wife, Phebe Ann Rush, and his father-in-law, Jacob Ridgway, one of the largest owners of central property in Philadelphia in the first half of the eighteenth century.

His estate, now represented mainly by the Willing heirs, last year sold to the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society two lots on the south side of Market street west of Twelfth street for $1,000,000, which Jacob Ridgway purchased about the year 1832 for less than $7000.

The Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library is an exact reproduction of the Parthenon in Athens, and is considered to be among the finest examples of the Doric school of architecture in America. It occupies the lot from Christian to Carpenter streets and from 12th to 13th streets, 299 feet on Broad and on 13th street and 527 feet on Christian and Carpenter streets. There are a number of fine trees on the large lot in the rear of the building, which form an ideal setting for the structure.

Dr. Rush's will, which is almost exclusively devoted to directions to his executor and brother-in-law, Henry J. Williams, regarding the establishment of the library, is in itself an interesting document. He directed that his executor should purchase a lot somewhere between 4th and 15th streets and Spruce and Race streets, as a site for the library, but in a codicil modified those instructions, leaving his executor free to chose another location "to be not less than 150 feet square." He explains that he was actuated to change his instructions regarding a location, through the fear that on account of the rapidly increasing price of ground between Spruce and Race streets it might be thought advisable to sell the building in twenty years "to satisfy the demands of speculative profits, a condition which is all too prevalent today."

Henry J. Williams purchased the block of ground at Broad and Christian streets from Charles Smith in June, 1869, for $130,000. Though the site was comparatively remote from the city, advancing prices of ground had begun to be felt there also, as Smith had purchased the same block in January of that year from the heirs of Catharine Helmuth for $100,000. It was the last of a twenty-acre estate known as Poplar Grove.

Work on the library building began in 1871 and seven years later it was turned over, a beautiful and completed structure, to the Library Company of Philadelphia, then located at 5th and Library streets, opposite Independence uare.

ld Deed for Drexel
perty of Interest

that of

Two Great Libraries 2-7-32

Editor of the Record:

Sir:—"Sir Thomas Bodley's library at Oxford is, as all will admit, a great and glorious institution, one of England's sacred places, and; springing as it does out of the mind and heart of one man, it is matter for rejoicing with every honest gentleman to be able to observe how quickly the idea took root, how well it has thriven, by how great a tradition it has become consecrated, and how studiously the wishes of the founder in all essentials are still observed and carried out."

These words by an eminent litterateur and politician (in England the one avocation does not seem automatically to exclude the other) seem as fine a tribute as may well be paid to the character and use of a real library—not one of the "read-at-our-soda-fountain," pink tea, Lydia Languish, poodle-faking, toy-terrier kind—to its management and to its users. The writer continues: "To many an American traveler the Bodleian is the pulsating heart of the university."

The Ridgway Library.

It is not some 400, as is the case with the Bodleian, but some 50 years since a citizen of Philadelphia conceived and put in execution for the benefit of his native city an idea comparable with that of Sir Thomas Bodley. Dr. James Rush in his will creating the Ridgway Library stated clearly his intention therein, "To bring within reach of readers and students works which private collections do not and cannot contain."

In pursuance of his will a library building, unsurpassed, if equaled, by any other building in the city, if indeed in the country, for grandeur and classic beauty was erected by his executor, turned over to his trustees, and opened to the public a half century ago.

I am one of those citizens for whose benefit and means of usefulness to his fellow-citizens Dr. Rush intended his bequest. I am, moreover, a dweller in South Philadelphia, to which section, were the wishes of its founder observed, the Ridgway Library might become an asset comparable to the Bodleian in Oxford.

Where Are the New Books?

In my particular field of study, viz., history, archeology, art, I have been unable to find any such books designated by Dr. Rush added for many years. Before writing this letter I have also examined other departments of the library, and I boldly assert that the same dearth of additions obtains in every department of science, literature, arts and art. It is readily proven by examination that were the books belonging to its trustee, the Library Company of Philadelphia, and deposited there removed, its shelves would be to all intents and purposes utterly bare.

Will the trustees explain, or will they follow the time-honored practice of the ostrich and Br'er Possum, reflect that least said is soonest mended, and lay low and say nuffin'?

I. WONDER.

WANT PLAYGROUNDS AT RIDGWAY LIBRARY

New Associations Decides to Ask Big Lawn for Children.

FIRST MEETING HELD

Will it disturb the readers if the grounds of the Ridgway Library, Broad and Christian streets, are turned over to the city for a children's playground?

When the question was asked at the first meeting of the Children's Playground Association, held in Room 696, City Hall, yesterday afternoon, a universal smile went round.

"The readers?" said Herman L. Duhring, Jr., whose suggestion it was that the trustees of the library be asked for the use of the ground. "There is only an average of about eight a day."

"I think you overestimate the number," said Professor Edwin J. Houston, gravely. "I have ... man there occasionally, but

Others pre
phagus of
street, and
of little o
clamoring f
ful to let s

In spite
reported L
the desec
cursion o
adopted f
to confer

The mee
ed by rep
cluding b
professor
women,
forming
ing a co
ing a bo

The obj
in the co
lic playg
secure th
recreatio

The fo
Lucien H
Judge W
Staake
Rabbi He
witz
Rev. P.
Dr. R. T
Kenzie
Dr. Edw
Houston
M. C. O'
James A
George
Charles

A meet
next we

II, Verse seven, of Genesis, it reads: "Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked and they sewed fig-leaves together and made themselves breeches."

SOLDIERS BATTLE ARMY OF SNAKES

TUNIS, Feb. 6.—Following floods, thousands of snakes were washed onto the shores of Cape Bon, Tunisia, and when the sun came out they began to crawl on dry land.

Troops had to be summoned to deal with them and they were joined in their task by thousands of villagers and a multitude of seagulls.

U. S. GIRLS STUDY AT MUNICH

MUNICH, Germany, Feb. 6 (UP).—Fifteen American college students, 13 of them girls, are spending their junior year at the University of Munich, under an arrangement completed by the Academic Exchange Service.

---

s Answered

's Associates
o This Has
pers Throughout the
rs. In No Single Instance
d, or Purchased Testimonial
rienced Conscientious Physi-
Inspire These Grateful Letters.

face was completely healed. That
years ago. About a month

Denomina
will not b

Suggests a

To the Edit

Sir: While the ... parks, why not try to ... sons having control of the vacant portion of the square of ground located between 13th, Broad, Christian and Carpenter, which this Ridgway Library is built on. For such purpose the dead wall around it is an eye sore. If placed under the care of this city it could be made a beautiful place at little expense and be a means of attracting more attention to the library.

J. E. McDERMOTT.

Bulletin Mar. 07

---

rose, all of this city.

The Directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia are happy in announcing to their fellow citizens, that although some valuable books have been destroyed, and others injured, by the fire on the 6th instant, in the apartment of the Loganian Library, the loss sustained by the public, in the valuable Institutions under their care, proves much less than was at first apprehended.

The destruction of an original portrait of James Logan, the distinguished Donor of the Library bearing his name, and of a bust of the venerable Founder of Pennsylvania, is however, a subject of great regret to them.

To the prompt and energetic exertions of the Fire and Hose Companies, particularly the Pennsylvania and Fame, whose location enabled them to bring their powerful apparatus into almost immediate action, the preservation of the Library is chiefly attributable.

The fire originated in the breastwork of the chimney, from a grate recently fixed in the Loganian Library, with a view to the greater security afforded by a coal fire.

The presence of the Directors, at one of their stated meetings, in an upper room of the Philadelphia Library, fortunately prevented any delay in the introduction of water, and enables them to exonerate their Librarian, and those employed by him, from any imputation of negligence.

WILLIAM RAWLE, Jr. Secretary.

January 7th, 1831.

---

tchell Homes
Suburban Semi - Detached
Separate Heated Garages

The builder has succeeded in injecting a tasteful variety to these homes, stressing many distinctive and unusual features.

izes 12 Different Styl
Three and Four Bedrooms
Some With Sleeping Porches

encoe Road, Powell Lane
(66th and Market Sts.)

ust south of West Chester Pike (66th and Market Sts.) Take Market St. Elevated o Millbourne Station, P. R. T. Bus on Walnut St. or auto out Market St.

urnished Sample Homes Always Open

any of the homes have a permanent unobcted view of the Park and Boulevard (63d St.). bath and shower, open fireplace, breakfast es, cedar closets, some with Solariums and two s with stall shower.

James N. Mitchell
Builder-Owner

CITY

A Master Com
TIME! VALUE! MODE
AT 21ST AND POPLAR
THE NEAREST MODERN
CENTER OF TH
SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, STORES & MA
SEVEN LINES OF TROLLEYS
Sample House, 861 N. 21st St., Open for I
1 P. M. to 9 P.
OUR FINANCING SERVICE W
GEO. A. NA
Pop. 0402
2736 GIRARD AV
BUILDERS & OW

NEW GARAG
$6850—$800
1600 BLOCK EAST
THREE SQUARES FROM FRANK
Porches, 6 rooms, bath, laundry tubs, Arco hot-wate entrance. Basement garages.
Inspect Furnished Sample Hous
HARRY SCHMITT
Builder
ON PREMISES, OR 9TH

SAMUE

---

attribu
sudden

Dr.

To the E

Sir: Ki
in his las ... by Dr. Rush
ring them ... newspapers and bar-
-elphia Li ... branch of the Phila-
... Broad and Christian sts.

MACK.

(Dr Rush was a wealthy Philadelphia physician of somewhat eccentric habits and unusual opinions. He especially entertained a fierce dislike to newspapers and their practices. In the will containing the bequest of $1,000,000 for the building of the library at Broad and Christian sts., known as the "Ridgway Library" he requested that no newspapers should be kept on file therein, describing such publications as "vehicles of disjointed thinking." The library is under the control of the Philadelphia Library and has never been popular with scholars or general readers. Its patronage is hardly sufficient to warrant its existence.)

rding Davis

Project of a reading room

Port Folio Feb. 1814. p. 105

Mention of P.S.

in Madison ltr

of Mch 18, 1782

to Jefferson

v Provisions

working out

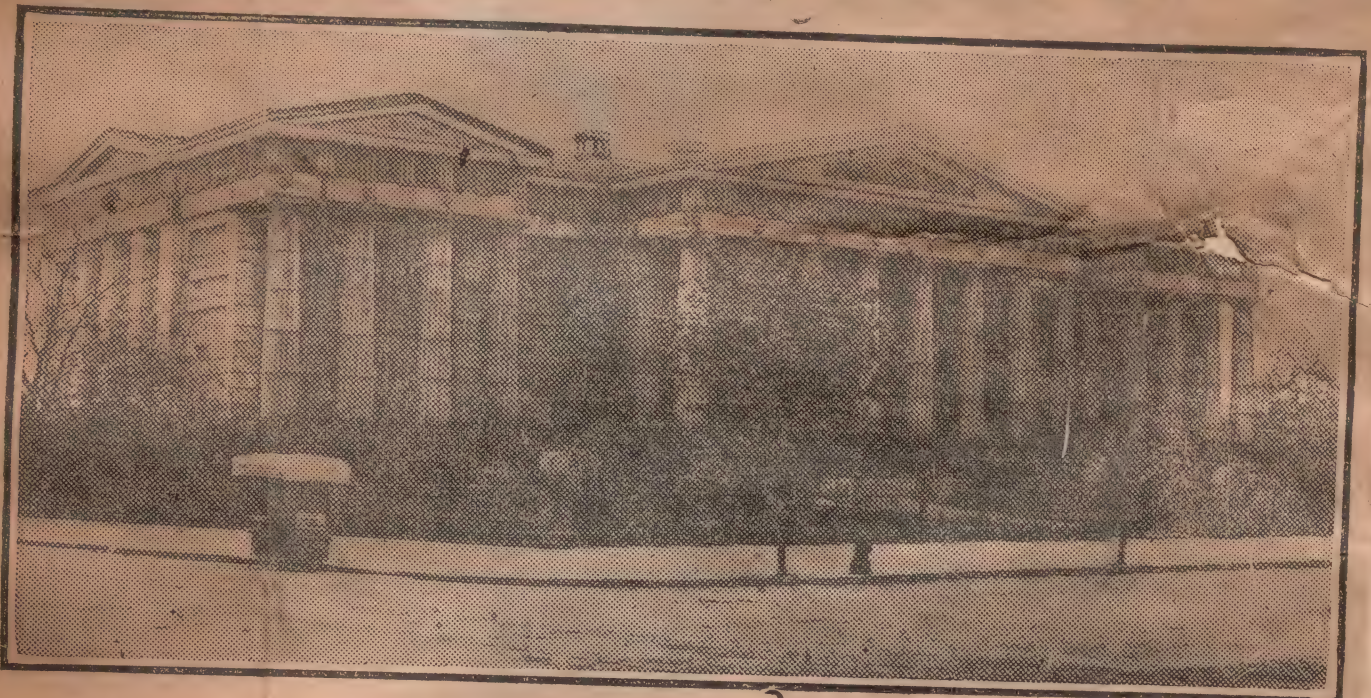
Gallant [illegible]

N.Y. papers vol 1

p. 179

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, MONDAY MORNING, MAY

SAY RIDGEWAY LIBRARY IS A "LITERARY WHITE ELEPHANT"



THE RIDGEWAY LIBRARY

Great Million Dollar Institution Has Become a Book Mausoleum--Almost Deserted as a Tomb

Philadelphia possesses a unique literary white elephant in the shape of what is known as the Ridgway Library, which occupies the tract of ground between Thirteenth and Broad streets, Carpenter and Christian streets.

Its exterior is superb. Its building is the finest specimen of pure ionic architecture in this country, if not in the world, yet many of the people who frequently pass it do not know what building it is, and probably a large majority of others have never been inside.

Its shelves, stocked with a magnificent collection of books, in some lines the finest collection in this country, are free to any well-behaved person who cares to enter, yet scarcely a handful of persons cross its threshold daily.

It represents more than a million in actual monetary value, and unmeasured values in the treasures on its shelves, yet the income it brings in from paid subscribers is scarcely enough to pay the attendants.

It is located in a thickly populated centre, where most of the residents only have leisure at night, and it shuts its gates at sundown. The men and women who have grown up or the children who are growing up within its shadows never get a chance to tap the rich treasures that line its shelves.

A few scholars, a handful of men and women pursuing some special line of research, make up its small coterie of regular patrons.

The strange condition of affairs is a legacy of the past, and seems to be without remedy. The great marble building, with its splendid grounds and its stately columns, is a permanent bequest. It has money to run itself, even though none come to patronize it. Its treasures increase yearly. They will keep on increasing. Some miracle may bring a change in the city's attitude towards the library, and it will be judged for its real worth.

If not, it will probably go on indefinitely, as before.

The Ridgway Library is in reality the Ridgway branch of the Philadelphia Library, Juniper and Locust streets. The Philadelphia Library is one of the oldest institutions in the city, and is a private corporation, owned, managed and directed by its own stockholders, some 900 in number. These realize the shortcomings of the Ridgway Library, but are powerless to inject life into the institution and raise it to its heritage of usefulness. The stockholders say they are tied down, shackled hand and foot by the mistakes of the past. One of the officers o[illegible] Philadelphia Library Company [illegible] where the trouble lays:

LOCATION IS TO BLAME.

"The primary fault of the Ridgway branch is its location. Provision for the building and maintenance of the library was made in the will of Dr. James Rush, a famous Philadelphia physician. In his will proper he stipulated very wisely that the library was not to be named after him, and was to be located between Fifth and Fifteenth street, Pine and Vine streets. But before he died he made a codicil to his will giving his executor the right to locate the building where the latter chose, and to build it as he pleased. This executor selected the present site, and said in doing so he was following the verbal instructions of Dr. Rush. There was a long and bitter fight. The courts sustained the executor, who chose the site and erected the building. It was named the Ridgway Library, in honor of the wife of Dr. Rush.

"There was a bitter contest before it was accepted by the Philadelphia Library, as the handicap of its location was fully realized. When the stockholders voted as to whether or not to accept the gift the library was accepted by only a majority of five votes.

"The books in the Philadelphia Library prior to 1856 were installed there. These embrace many notable collections, in some lines the most complete collections in this country. Other collections were purchased, notably Professor Allen's chess library, and in the Ridgway branch are priceless volumes. It has none of the lighter books, and the only works of fiction on its shelves are those from Dr. Rush's own library. It is really a library for the serious-minded and the scholarly.

"By economy it has been kept up to date, as the income from its trust funds are sufficient to keep it going.

"The provision that it close at sundown was made in the will.

"Those who do not take books away the library is free. Not even an introduction is required. To take books away one must be a subscriber to the Philadelphia Library.

"We realize the pity of its poor support, but what are we to do?"

The Ridgway Library is a magnificent, a stupendous literary white elephant.

THE LIBRARIES.—The Philadelphia Library now contains more than 70,000 volumes, a large number of which are in manuscript. Some of them are rare, dating back to the eleventh century, and others are full files of the earliest American newspapers, the oldest of which was published in 1719.

The library was founded in 1731. The company first occupied Independence Hall, afterwards Carpenter's Hall, and completed the present building in 1790. There are 900 shareholders. 1,500 volumes are yearly added to the stock, and $2,000 is annually laid out for English editions of new works. The library is embellished with portraits, busts, and memorials of early and revered Philadelphians. Strangers may consult any book in this library without charge, and take it away by depositing twice its value, and paying twelve cents a week for its use.

The Mercantile Library is now the popular resort, as under the present liberal management the lighter publications are not outlawed, and the newest and best novels are at once placed upon the shelves.

The Athenæum and the various district libraries are now frequented by numbers of visitors, who, having spent the summer leisurely, will improve the fireside evenings of winter in mental and imaginative enjoyment.

20, 1907

PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.—Venerable in dingy brick, with the shadows of a century upon its walls and pretentious old doorway, stands, amid the
and bustle of modern times, the Philadelphia
rary. Once within its portals, we are plunged
the past; portraits of old gentlemen in pow-
d wigs and square cut coats, gravely eye us from
corner; solemn busts protrude their eye-balls
tly into space; and two sober old clocks, once
ging to OLIVER CROMWELL and WILLIAM
mildly tick the fading seconds, over
ved by their clanging young neighbor of
udence Hall. Here are no easy chairs, car-
r elegant review-stands of the modern
library; no chandeliers brilliant till the hour of ten with gas; but hard, immoveable benches, nailed down at impracticable distances from bare pine wood tables; bare floors, echoing to the tread; book shelves caged in with wirework, and kept rigidly locked from curious hands; and in place of chandeliers, a notice that "The Library is open daily from ten o'clock to sunset." The visitor may wander in silence throughout the still halls, and meet an occasional old book worm, making extracts from an aged volume, or a venerable gentleman scanning a newspaper file of fifty years ago; but, with these exceptions, as he peers into each nook of solemn tomes, he meets but the inevitable bench and pine wood table, and a ghostly bust, that looks afar and "cuts him dead."

All this, however, is but a reverse side of the picture. As an offset, it may be remarked that the Library contains seventy thousand volumes, among which are books in manuscript and type, the former dating from the eleventh century downward, and the latter numbering valuable English editions of travels and biography possessed by few libraries in the Union; works in many languages, and bound volumes of old Philadelphia newspapers, nowhere else to be found, from the *American Weekly Mercury*, running from 1719 to 1745, down to the *Pennsylvania Weekly Gazette*, projected by FRANKLIN, in 1728, which expired in 1804. In these are primitive advertisements which excite a smile, and furious political abuse of prominent men of their day; in which WASHINGTON, among others, is by no means spared.

Citizens and strangers may consult any book without charge, and can take it away by depositing double its value, and paying twelve cents a week. At the desk of the Librarian may be daily seen the intellectual representatives of Philadelphia fashionable society; blooming maidens, bright young widows, and young lawyers with coats of faultless cut, as also many of maturer age. They are not content with the novels of the day, but need more solid reading, and moreover frequent the library because it is expensive and exclusive, and because their fathers and grandfathers did so before them. These sometimes bring a man servant, who carries their books. The upper classes of all countries have much leisure for mental cultivation, and there is much learning among them. The originality, however, which gives impulse to an age, springs chiefly from the body of the people. This is because it is the most numerous class, and also because its members are less trammelled by social position, in giving utterance to their innovating thoughts

The Philadelphia Library was founded in 1731, by a club of literary characters, called the "Junta," of whom FRANKLIN was the moving spirit. Its first locality was a room in Independence Hall; it was afterwards transferred to Carpenter's Hall, where it remained till the completion of the present building, in 1790. This, with the ground upon which it stands, is all the real estate owned by the Library. There are 900 shareholders. To become a subscriber, it is necessary to own a share, worth $40, and pay $4 a year subscription. These terms are high; but the Library seeks no addition to its income, and is content that the mass of readers should frequent the cheaper institutions which abound throughout the city. As the reading public, therefore, can be elsewhere suited at low rates, no effort has been made to increase its facilities. About fifteen hundred volumes are yearly added to the stock, of which, perhaps, two hundred are selections from French, German, Italian and Spanish novelties. $2000 is each year laid out in English editions of new works.

Prominent on the walls is a portrait of WILLIAM PENN, in middle age. A picture of him, in armor, at the age of 21, is in the rooms of the Historical Society. The Friends of that day frowned upon the fine arts, and after joining them, he would not allow his likeness to be taken. NICHOLAS BEVAN, therefore, carved an ivory bust of him from memory, and the library painting is a copy of this. The bust was destroyed by fire in 1832, which also burnt several bookcases in its neighborhood. Prominent among the portraits are those of FRANKLIN and MR. JAMES LOGAN, a gentleman who last century bequeathed 10,000 volumes to the Library, chiefly in the dead languages, and also deeded six hundred acres of farm land in Bucks county towards improving it. These books occupy a section of the building appropriated to them, and are called the Loganian Library. The land devised in connection with them was leased for one hundred and twenty-one years. This lease has now expired, and will be renewed for ninety-nine years at an increased rate.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY COMPANY—WHERE SHALL THE RIDGWAY BRANCH BE LOCATED?—The report of P. Pemberton Morris, master in chancery, to whom was referred the various questions arising in the case of the Philadelphia Library Company *vs.* Henry J. Williams, executor of the will of the late Dr. James Rush, was filed in the Supreme Court yesterday morning. It is very long, but the main question seems to be as to the competency of Mr. Williams to be a trustee under the will, he having given the testator a promise, a few days before his death, that the building for the Ridgway branch of the Library should be placed on the lot at the corner of Broad and Christian streets. The master's report concludes as follows:

The conclusions, then, to which the master has come, upon the questions submitted, are, that the will was not affected by the promise; that the trustee, by his promise, has so crippled his discretion as to make it impossible to say how much his preference for the lot in question is due to his unbiased opinion that it is the most expedient for the purpose, and how much to his promise to Dr. Rush; that his action in the premises must, therefore, be under the direction of the Court.

That the complainants have an interest in the selection of the fittest site, which gives them a standing in a Court of Equity to ask that the selection be made under the supervision of the Court; that this cause is not to be viewed as an expression of opinion adverse to the site proposed by the executor; that it be referred to a master to inquire and report whether the proposed site is a proper and expedient location for the said building, and if not, what would be such a site; and that the defendant be restrained from proceeding to erect the said building on the said lot on the southwest corner of Broad and Christian streets until further orders.

Then follows the form of a decree, to which the defendant has filed exceptions, and it remains for the Court to decide on the master's report.

Old Philadelphia Library Seen in Historical Light

To the Editor of The North American.

ALL Philadelphians are deeply gratified at the steady progress of our noble city in the face of many discouraging obstacles. We rejoice at the many indications of increasing material prosperity—all the more so when they come as surprises, such as the rapid growth of our silk industry. But there are other phases of our city's advance which impress us as even of more importance and higher interest. One of these is the increasing attention that is being given to our public library facilities. Philadelphia was the birthplace of the first public library in this country, and for this reason should feel in honor bound to be at the head of the column. In a recent article by Mr. Julian Hawthorne in The North American, that section of the old Philadelphia Library which is housed in the Ridgway Building, at the intersection of Christian and Broad streets, is treated in a disparaging way. To this building the more valuable books of the Philadelphia Library were removed in 1878.

Now, we take it that Philadelphia has about as much American historical feeling as any city in this country, with the possible exception of Boston. Historically, therefore, if for no other reason, the Ridgway Library appeals to the intelligent sentiment of Philadelphia. Mr. Hawthorne, in his article entitled "A Modern Cloister in Philadelphia," we think, made a serious mistake in treating the subject in a humorous vein. A writer of his ability could have done our city a service by a thorough discussion of our library facilities and needs. Such a course would have commended itself to the thinking element among his readers. As it is, he preferred to provoke a smile at the memory of Dr. Rush, who, to say the least, prevented one of our great public instrumentalities for good from being flooded by a literature which is in no particular danger of being read by coming generations. Perhaps the slim attendance at the Ridgway Library is due largely to its unfortunate location away from the centre of the city. Besides, this library is one to which scholars—learned men—are apt to resort in emergencies for special work, and no educated man will undervalue the fundamental quality and necessity of such labors. The late Dr. Krauth, in his edition of "Berkeley's Principles," says that "next to his own he has used our venerable city library, and to the kindness of its librarians he is indebted for the unrestricted use of its treasures, which, in spite of the lack of public appreciation and liberality, furnish the most important aid to which the scholars of Philadelphia have access." This was written a quarter of a century ago, but it holds good as to quality of the contents of that library to-day.

Aside, however, from these reflections concerning our old Philadelphia Library, founded by Dr. Franklin and liberally remembered by Dr. Rush, let us congratulate ourselves on the more recent interest shown for the extension of library facilities in various directions. The erection of the University Library building and the gift of the Widener Mansion for free library purposes are encouraging signs. While the older libraries, such as the Athenaeum and the Mercantile, are patronized by appreciative circles, other treasures are being placed within the reach of those who are in pursuit of special knowledge. This holds good especially in the sphere of the learned professions, and as there are, besides our numerous medical schools, five theological seminaries in Philadelphia, it may not be out of place to remark that the best liturgical library in the world is to be found in the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy. We hope that Mr. Hawthorne will take up this subject again and give us a telling article on the needs of our excellent free library system. G. F. SPIEKER.

Lib. Co. of Phila.
Am. Daily Advertiser
May 1820 p. 2
article on history

~~Addr~~

Address from Lib. Co. to
John Penn
Penna. Gazette
June 5. 1735

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Historical Collections—Important Additions to the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library Company—Binding of the Rush and Dillwyn Papers, the Streeper's Papers and the Allen Chess Collection.—Some interesting and valuable information is contained in the July Bulletinof the Library Company of Philadelphia, which is now in proof. The pamphlet embraces a list of the more important books which have been added to the Locust and Juniper streets institution and the Ridgway branch, including the Loganian Library at Broad and Christian streets, since the first of the current year.

The index of the manuscript department at the Ridgway branch is now said to number about 15,000 titles, and the old and historical works in custody there are prized very highly. By the will of Dr. James Rush, novels are prohibited in the branch building, and to this has been largely attributed the fact that the average daily attendance there during the past year has been about 63, to 336 at the library at Locust and Juniper streets.

In the forthcoming bulletin, however, there are references to several collections of peculiar interest to the patrons of the Ridgway branch. One in particular is that of the completion by Professor Thomas, after two years' labor, of the binding and indexing of the celebrated papers of Dr. Benjamin Rush, which his son, Dr. James Rush, directed by will should be preserved and retained in the institution. The papers as indexed and arranged embrace fifty-two volumes, and extend over the period from 1769 to 1869. They relate to the American Revolution, and include letters of Adams, Bartlett, Clymer, Franklin, Hancock, Hopkins, Jefferson, Morris, Paca, Read, Rush, Taylor, Walton and Witherspoon, signers of the Declaration of Independence; of David Ramsay, M. D., from 1776 to 1813: of Granville Sharp, Dr. Lettson, and others, dated in England, and of Drs. Barton, Coxe, Hosack and Miller. There are also three volumes of family letters, one volume of letters and poems of Elizabeth Ferguson, and 26 volumes of miscellaneous letters addressed to Dr. B. Rush, which are alphabetically arranged. In addition to these there are also copies of letters to Dr. B. Rush, four volumes of papers relating to the yellow fever; papers of Matthew Carey, relating principally to internal improvements; papers relating to Dickinson College from 1783 to 1811; correspondence between Drs. Benjamin and James Rush; select letters to Dr. James Rush; letters of Hon. Richard Rush, and also a large collection of medical papers in the handwriting of Benjamin Rush, M. D.

Another valuable batch of historical letters, known as the "Dillwyn Papers," which date from 1770 to 1824, are mentioned in the bulletin. These were presented to the Manuscript Department by Mrs. Guilielma M. Howland, of Wilmington, Delaware, and were examined at the request of the librarian by Professor McMasters, of the University of Pennsylvania. The comment of the latter as the result of the examination is as follows:

"The Dillwyn manuscripts consist of a series of delightful letters which, during a period of fifty-four years, passed between William Dillwyn and Susanna Emlen, his daughter. The father was living in London; the daughter was sometimes at Burlington, sometimes at Philadelphia, sometimes at places between the two. The letters begin at a time when Susanna was a child, and the thirteen States still colonies under the English crown, and, save when interrupted by the war for independence and the war of 1812, come down in unbroken sequence to 1824. In them are mingled in a most pleasing way politics and family affairs, town gossip and the current news of the day; scraps of information about famous men, and pictures of domestic life of the time. What was being done by the Society of Friends at Burlington; how feeble Doctor Franklin had become; what was thought of the Federal Convention of 1787, and how the people idolized the first President of the United States, are all put down by the youthful topographer. Now a description is given of a trip to New York, of the badness of the inns along the way, and the sights of the great city at the mouth of the Hudson. Again there is an account of the terrible times of '93 and '97 and '98 when the yellow fever swept off scores of Philadelphians every day. Now the subject is a Philadelphia home, the kind of furniture in use. Political pamphlets are noticed and sent to London. The impossibility of procuring folio letter-paper in Philadelphia is commented upon. The trouble of '98 with France, and later with England are all passed in review. A correspondence so full of the details of the social life of the time cannot, perhaps, be found elsewhere."

The papers, which are written in a clear and readable hand, are well preserved. They embrace five large volumes.

The "Strepers Papers" are another important acquisition of the Ridgway Branch. They are that part of the collection presented by the heirs of John Jay Smith, deceased, and were examined by Samuel W. Pennypacker, who has contributed this note.

"On the 10th of March, 1682, William Penn conveyed to Jan Strepers, a merchant of Kaldkirchen, a village in the neighborhood of Crefeld, in Germany, 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania. Strepers sent his brother William and others over to settle upon it, and they were among the thirteen heads of families who arrived in Philadelphia October 6th, 1683, and founded Germantown. In the right of this purchase Strepers obtained 275 acres at Germantown, 50 at Chestnut Hill, 275 at the Trappe, 4448 in Bucks county, 50 in the City Liberties and three city lots. Some years later Jan and William Strepers entered into an agreement by the terms of which Jan retained an inheritance they had in common at Kaldkirchen, and William became entitled to the lands in Pennsylvania. Subsequently a large portion of these lands were purchased from William by James Logan. The validity of the conveyance to William was denied by the heirs of Jan in Germany, and in 1765 Peter Hendricks Streper, fortified with powers of attorney from his relatives, came over to this country and began ejectment suits to recover the lands. A long and expensive contest resulted, which was finally settled by agreements between the parties. In the course of the struggle all of the correspondence and other papers which passed between William in Germantown and Jan in Kaldkirchen, and their children from 1683 to about 1735, were hunted up for use in the trial. These original papers in Dutch and German, numbering about one hundred and fifty, and consisting of letters, agreements, accounts, etc., have recently been ascertained to be in the possession of the Library Company of Philadelphia, and have been gathered together and arranged by Prof. Thomas. Covering as they do the earliest period in the history of Pennsylvania, and filled as they are with the descriptive details of the work and the home life of the writers, they constitute an invaluable source of historical information, especially concerning Germantown."

The chess collection of the late Professor George Allen was recently purchased from his heirs by the Library Company and a special room has been devoted to it at the Ridgway Branch. A chess table of beautiful finish has also been provided by the directors, for the use of students and amateurs

The Allen collection comprises nearly 900 titles, besides 250 autograph letters and fifty photographs and engravings of chess celebrities. It contains the principal treatises upon the game, in the rarest as well as in the commoner editions. There are copies of Domiano, Ruy Lopez, Tarsia, Greco, Gianutio, Salvio, Ponziani, Stamma, Wunsch, Philidor, Kindermann, Pratt and others. Many of the books are in excellent condition, Professor Allen having taken a lively interest in the game and its adherents.

Route of the Fifth and Sixth-street Railroad—No. 9.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.

In 1730, or thereabouts, for he does not give the date precisely, Franklin states in his autobiography that he proposed to the members of the junto or club to which he belonged, that they should each bring such books as they possessed to their place of meeting, that they might have them to refer to in their discussions, as was convenient, and though their several stocks of books were not large, they might, by combining them, make quite a respectable library. This project meeting with approbation, the books were collected in one end of a hired room, in Mr. Grace's house. They did not muster so many books as they expected, and the plan not working perfectly well was given up after a year's trial. The subscription library had many advantages, among others that of admitting more to a participation of its benefits. Franklin states that the objections and reluctance which he met with made him "soon feel the impropriety of presenting one's self as the proposer of any useful project that might be supposed to raise one's reputation, in the smallest degree, above that of one's neighbor, when one has need of their assistance to accomplish that object." He stated the plan when he went about for subscriptions, as "the scheme of a number of friends who had requested him to go about and propose it to such as they thought lovers of reading." He recommended this course to be pursued on such occasions, and states that he has often seen the advantage of it; for, says he, "If it remains a while uncertain to whom the merit belongs, some one more vain than yourself will be encouraged to claim it, and then even envy will be disposed to do you justice, by plucking those assumed feathers and restoring them to their right owner." Franklin drew up a rough draft of the scheme and had them put into form by his friend Chas. Brockden. Each subscriber (they had at first but fifty) agreed to pay down forty shillings, and ten shillings annually thereafter. The articles of association were to be binding on themselves and their heirs for fifty years. Franklin at least lived beyond the expiration of that time, but in the meanwhile the articles had been supplanted by a regular charter. The first entry in the minutes still preserved bears date November 8th, 1731, when the directors were called together by Jos. Breintnall, the secretary, "to take bond of the treasurer for the faithful performance of his trust, and to consider of and appoint a proper time for the payment of the money subscribed, and other matters relating to the said library." There was trouble then, as now, in collecting dues, and by the 29th of March, 1732, only a little more than half had been obtained. At a meeting held at this time, Thomas Godfrey informed the directors that James Logan had heard of their plan, and offered his services in the selection of books; an offer which was very acceptable, since Mr. Logan was then thought to be "a gentleman of universal learning," and well deserved to be called "the best judge of books in these parts." A catalogue being made out of such books as seemed most likely to be useful to them, in the preparation of which they were much assisted by Mr. Logan, £45 sterling was sent to England by Mr. Thomas Hopkinson, (the first president of the Philosophical Society,) with directions to purchase as many books as he could get for the money. The first importation of books was received in October of that year, and were placed in Robert Grace's chamber, in Jones's (often called, in old times, Pewter Platter) alley, which leads from Front to Second street, just above Market. The first doner to the library was Peter Collinson, of London, who was an active and firm friend for many years; the earliest in this country, William Rawle, of this city, who presented, March 12th, 1733, "six volumes or books of the works of Mr. Edmund Spencer," in recording which present the secretary adds the seemingly superfluous information that "the famous old English poem called Spencer's Fairy Queen is included in these works." Franklin shortly after this filled the office of librarian for three months and a day. In 1738 the company received from Dr. Walter Lydserpe, of Antigua, a present of nearly £60. In the letter which accompanied the gift, he expressed the hope that others might be incited by it to "lend a helping hand to promote so great a good by which your infant colony will in a few *ages* be ranked the first in the calendar of all the American settlements." In 1740, the Assembly granted the library the use of the second story of the west wing of the State House. In 1763, it is mentioned in an address to John Penn, that "many other libraries after our example and on our plan have been erected in this and neighboring provinces whereby useful knowledge has been more generally diffused in *these remote corners of the earth.*" Franklin, in his autobiography, states to the same effect, that "these libraries have improved the general conversation of the Americans, made the common tradesmen and farmers as intelligent as most gentlemen from other countries, and perhaps have contributed in some degree to the stand so generally made throughout the colonies in defence of their privileges." Francis Hopkinson, celebrated afterwards as a signer of the Declaration, and a witty but powerful writer in the cause of liberty, was librarian from 1765 to 1770. In 1769, the Union Library Company, whose charter was confirmed by Gov. Dewey, in 1759, proposed to u with the Philadelphia Library. The cor nec formed was of very considerable advantage, thou the value of the books derived from th e Unio Company is not known. The library building o that company was at the corner of Third and Pear streets, which was transferred to the Philadelphia Library Company, and its rent was quite an addition to the yearly income. Nearly 250 new members were added to the Philadelphia, former shareholders in the other company. About the same time, the Amicable and Association Library companies joined their fortunes with their now revered senior. They were comparatively small affairs and little is known about them. In 1773, the library was moved to Carpenter Hall, still standing at the head of Carpenter's court, Chestnut street, between Third and Fourth streets. The lower part of this edifice being taken, the succeeding year, by the First Continental Congress, it was ordered "that the librarian furnish the gentlemen who are to meet in Congress, in this city, with such books as they may have occasion for during their sitting, taking a receipt for them." The public spirit of the directors and company continued this privilege to Congressmen until the seat of Government was removed to Washington. It had been intended to remove the books, &c., from the city, when the prospect of a British occupation became imminent during the Revolution; but the stockholders had so much else to think of then that no quorum of them could be brought together to consider it, and, therefore, the plan was not carried out. The library was unmolested, however, and the British officers, who made good use of it, left deposits and paid hire, as if in time of peace. When the war was concluded there was quite an accumulation of dues, &c. There were then few books published in America, and importation from Europe was, of course, out of the question during the war. Quite an addition was made then, all at once, to the number of books. We should not forget to observe that, in 1777, Wm. Logan, Esq., made quite a large bequest of works of ancient authors—the most valuable gift which, up to that time, had been received.

James Logan, whom we have had occasion before to mention, instituted a library for the free use of the public forever, and erected for it a small building on the west side of Sixth street, between Chestnut and Walnut streets, near where George street now runs, and, *during his lifetime,* invested the books, the house and lot, and some yearly rents, for the support of a librarian, and the maintenance and increase of the library. The original papers he cancelled, however, and prepared another which had some slight variations. Before executing this, he died, but his children carried out his intentions of their own free will. William Logan, the founder's son, was the first librarian. He died in 1776, and for several years which followed, during the war, the library was closed. In 1791, James Logan, the son and last surviving trustee named in the grant, had an act of Assembly passed annexing the Loganian to the Philadelphia Library. The books were, however, to be kept distinct, and its trustees were to be the directors of the Philadelphia Library for the time being, with the ad

three of the Logan family, or appointed

The Loganian Library books are kept in

tional room we mentioned in our last as

the purpose on Library street. In 1799

Cox, of Ireland, presented many valuab

scripts, and, five years later, Rev. Sam

ton, rector of Chevening, Kent, England,

whole library, numbering 2,500 costly vol

the company. In the same year, 1804

Bleakley made it a bequest of £1,000.

cently, and the last large donation, 500

umes were given by William Mackenzi

The total number of books on its shelves

to nearly 70,000.

tion

the

e ad

ilt f

Henl

nanu

Pres

t hi

s, to

John

re

vol.

Esq.

unts

—Our civil-service deformity manifests itself as well in State and municipal as in national affairs. Last June we noted the fact, which came out at the Cincinnati Convention of Librarians, that the greater part of the Western librarians owe their appointment to, and fear removals from, purely political causes. We have just heard that the State Librarian of Indiana, a capable officer, has been decapitated in consequence of the recent elections, to make way for one of whom

Nation

Dec. 7, 1882]

we know nothing, but who, it is safe to say, has probably not superior qualifications. The State Librarian of Michigan is also threatened. This is a particularly aggravated case. The present incumbent is declared by competent judges to be the only good librarian the State has ever had. When she took charge of the library the room was a lounging place, the sets of books were very incomplete, and in the way of further spoliation. She soon established order and decorum; she made herself familiar with the books, so as to direct inquirers, and set herself to fill up deficiencies, by purchase or exchange, as fast as the means of the library would allow. The library thus well cared for received more attention and larger appropriations from the State, and is now declared to be, for its size, a remarkably good one. The law library particularly is said to be well selected; for Mrs. Tenney, one of the judges says, has shown more judgment in buying than most lawyers. This is the official who is to be turned out to make way for a woman who has stumped the State for the victorious party. If the new claimant were an excellent librarian, it would be gross ingratitude to turn out a faithful and efficient officer to make way for her. Probably she knows nothing whatever of the work. Librarians are born, but they have to be made also. When one who was evidently a born librarian has also been made by the experience of a number of years, it is very poor political economy, however good politics it may be, to let her services be lost to the State, and take in her place one who has all the experience to gain. A few instructed persons know that to perform the work of a librarian fairly requires months of apprenticeship; to perform it well requires years of practice. This, however, after all, is not to the point. The desire of the politician is, not that the public service should be well done, but that his friends should be so treated that they will support him at the next election.

ANOTHER PROFESSION, that of the librarian, has been added to the arts and sciences. The model modern librarian is not a mere bookkeeper; he knows subjects and authorities as well as volumes, and can give many points and leading directions to students as guide to the shelves. In Worcester, Mass., the method has been for some time in practice of conferences between the public librarian and the public school teachers and scholars. Cincinnati and Chicago are both following out this plan. The librarian of the present, by this arrangement, is expected to develop a thirst for information as well as to supply the demand of books sought. What many would-be readers want to know, on entering a library, is really what they do want to know—not only in what direction to seek for information on subjects that interest them, but to be guided to topics that will interest.

THE NEW PROFESSION.

The rapid multiplication of city and town libraries in this country has created a new profession. Once the librarian was one who kept account of the taking out of books, charging them on and off as they were carried away or brought in, and there his duty practically ended. In the new view of the office of librarian this function is regarded as a business matter which any one can attend to, and his true function is something widely different. He stands after the public school before the community of young people, and in fact before the whole population, as the "keeper of books," as the living guide to their contents, as the director of the people's reading, as a many-sided man who is able to say the right word here, to give the right suggestion there, to drop hints wherever they are needed as to the direction of one's reading. His function is encyclopedic in its outgoing to all sorts and conditions of men. In the great city this ministration may seem to disappear as the Summer's rain soaks into the soil and cannot be found, but in the town or village where the personal element comes into greater development, the librarian, whether man or woman, is the person whose relations to the intelligent life of the population can only be estimated with reference to the whole population.

The growth of the office of librarian in this country has been unprecedented, and the recent session of the American librarians at St. Louis has developed the fact that no intellectual interest is more rapidly advancing than that of supplying the American people with printed matter. The newspaper is universal, and thousands of people never go beyond it, but wherever the public schools discharge their duty to the population they hand the pupil over to the library for the completion of his education. It is here that the function of the librarian begins, and such is the interest in the formation of libraries throughout the country that the only occupation where the supply is not equal to the demand to-day is that of properly-educated librarians. Mr. MELVIL DEWEY, while the librarian of Columbia College, realized what the coming demand of the Nation would be, and his school of librarians, established there before he became Secretary of the University of the State of New-York, has been the only place where the young librarian could obtain a training suited to the demands made upon him at the present time. It is understood that Mr. DEWEY takes with him to Albany the school which he had successfully initiated in this city, and that it will be enlarged at Albany and so connected with his work of placing circulating libraries in the townships of this State as the complement of public education that it will be a training school in a double sense. It will furnish, not only the technical training needed in the formation and management of a great library, but will bring the future librarians of the country to a close personal consciousness of what is most required if these libraries, now rapidly multiplying everywhere, shall discharge their proper functions in universal education.

From what has here been said it will be seen that the future of the public library in America has hardly yet been entered upon. The willingness exists almost everywhere to endow a public library; it is a popular way of doing good. But next to the endowment of a library is the ability to create it, and this requires gifts of no common order. Mr. JUSTIN WINSOR of Cambridge and Dr. WILLIAM F. POOLE of Chicago are the two men who have shown most ability among us to create libraries. The Boston Public Library is largely the fruit of Mr. WINSOR's rare instinct for making valuable collections, and the public looks upon Dr. POOLE's creation of the Newbury Library as already an accomplished fact. But when you go outside of half a dozen librarians who have manifested these creative and administrative gifts, and inquire who among the younger men is equal to the organization of any one of the fifty libraries which to-day demand a competent person at their head, it is almost impossible to find the men or women who are capable of the work. There have been in England during the century but three great librarians—PANIZZI at the British Museum, COXE at the Bodleian, and HENRY BRADSHAW, his successor in the same position. These men had an instinct which led them to their chosen profession, and the same may be said of the half dozen great librarians, two of whom we have just named, in this country. But the demand is not for these men of genius alone; it is for well-educated and thoroughly-trained men and women who not only know how to collect and administer a library, but have an insight into the ways in which the library can be made, like the newspaper, the daily university of the people in their widening and higher education.

NEW YORK NEWS AND GOSSIP

Public Libraries to be Open Part of Sunday Afternoons.

Bureau of the Democrat and Chronicle.

New York, Jan. 5, 1906.

After a great deal of discussion, and the display of a perverse disinclination, on the part of its advocates, to view the scheme in any but a purely sentimental light, the great controversy over the Sunday opening of branch libraries here has ended in their being opened during certain hours in the afternoon of that day. The idea that the promoters of the agitation to this end so industriously put forward, that it was a hardship to the public to be debarred from access to the libraries on Sunday, is known to be quite fallacious. The fact is that any one who takes the trouble to make observations for himself will find that the use of public library reading-rooms on Sunday is confined to listless adult idlers and ill-behaved small boys and girls. These wander in and out just because they find the place open, not becauce they have any desire to make serious use of the privilege, nor any thought that it is to be prized as a means of recreation. They have never longed for any such privilege; they avail themselves of it in the most perfunctory spirit. As recipients of the boon craved on their behalf by a lot of well meaning but ill-informed agitators, the boys and girls and the idlers of a riper age assume the attitude of the bad children depicted by the comic artists, who make faces at and hustle the benevolent old gentleman or lady who mildly interferred in a juvenile street quarrel and offers religious advice as to the sinfulness of little folks falling out and calling one another names. The boys and girls and idlers "just go in" to the "old library," wondering why those old fools, the authorities, keep it open on Sundays anyway. They are as vile in their conduct as they can safely be, or else they are blankly indifferent. These are the actual facts, as can be found, as I said, from personal observation, or by making inquiries of librarians. The agitators, in brief, set a mountain laboring and succeeded in bringing forth a mouse of small dimensions. The only people they have really affected for better for worse are the library attaches, whose legitimate Sunday holiday is cut into by the innovation. And that is the lesson of library opening on Sundays in a great city.

POLITICS IN LIBRARY MANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: So much has been written on the ideal side of library work, and modern library schools and clubs have done so much to create in the minds of their graduates and the public an impression that the modern public library is invariably conducted with a nobility of purpose and an unselfishness of administration which amount

and taught in the training schools, can be given?

The librarian is, first of all, a lobbyist for his library. Funds must be wrung from the city authorities every year; and to do this, with the aid of the working members of his board, takes up much time and energy which, under the ideal system, properly belong to the public. He must flatter and cajole; give special privileges and extra service; offer the resources of the library without the usual restrictions; fling rules to the winds; allow raids to be made on his new magazines and books—and in many other ways coax the support of the powers that be, all at the expense of the general public.

Nominally not "in politics," yet actually often subject to the wishes or orders of some ward leader or "boss" in the matter of appointments, how is the library to secure the best material for its personnel? How make promotions for merit among those already employed? A board of trustees is usually powerless, or too negligent of its duties, to prevent this outside interference. Unnecessary and cumbersome departments are created solely to provide places for "heads" and "chiefs" who owe their positions to "pull," and place fealty to their patrons before service to the public. Usually these self-important "chiefs" (sad to say they are often women) have so little real work to do that most of their time is taken up in planning and launching some fresh foolishness, of no actual value to the service. In many ways the public is the sufferer from the inevitable lack of unity among the various departments.

Where there are branch libraries the effect of this division of authority is really appalling. First of all, the librarians in charge are likely to be appointed in much the same manner as the main library "heads," that is, without regard to ability or fitness. Mere mechanical dexterity seems to these half-taught "librarians" to be the very essence of perfection in library work, and their own worth and that of those under them they judge solely by the ability to put on labels artistically, or by the number of books charged per minute. That a knowledge of what is in the books is one of the first requisites of librarianship does not seem to occur to them. Necessarily then their first and last resource in reference work is the ever-ready encyclopedia; the boundless treasure of knowledge that lies in other books on their shelves is entirely unknown to them, and unused.

The political evil is almost equalled by another that is rife in some libraries, namely, personal favoritism. Invidious discrimination, unmerited preferment, unusual indulgences, and an entire release from rules and freedom from penalties are the particular signs of this favoritism. Trained and practical assistants, those who have made their work a real study, are often found chafing under the authority of some half-taught man or woman who happens to have the private ear of one of the "board." Nepotism, too, is responsible for many an unsuitable person securing position and promotion out of all proportion to ability.

This, then, is what we find on the other side of library work. Yet, black as is the picture, there are not wanting signs to encourage us. The profession is undergoing

---

Jan. 28. 1784

On motion of Mr. Howell, seconded by Mr. Lee

Ordered, That the secretary deliver to Josiah Hewes, one of the directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, two sets of the Journals of Congress, neatly bound, for the use of the said Library Company.

J. of C.

Liby. Co. of Phila.

Danl. Bowen, Hist. of Phila.

Phila., 1839. p. 177

"The first (circulating) library in London was commenced in the Strand, by a bookseller of the name of Wright, about the year 1740; he was succeeded by Bathoe, who was succeeded by Mr John Bell; his library has lately been sold at auction. The number of circulating libraries in Great Britain in 1800 was one thousand. In the capital of the United States there are two, and Boston in New England boasts of one.

Port Folio Feb. 27, 1802 p. 63

Liby. Co. of Phila.

v. Port Folio July 10. 1802

Complaint to Directors &c.

" " " July 18, 1801 p. 251
on its late opening

POLITICS IN LIBRARY MANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: So much has been written on the ideal side of library work, and modern library schools and clubs have done so much to create in the minds of their graduates and the public an impression that the modern public library is invariably conducted with a nobility of purpose and an unselfishness of administration which amount almost to sacrifice, that it may be useful to examine the actual state of affairs in a number of our large libraries.

In such a survey we find that the most marked divergence from the ideal is in the power which political favoritism and corruption—and the many contributory evils which follow in their wake—exert in certain municipal libraries. This favoritism affects all the staff, from the librarian to the janitor; and their actions are ordered entirely by political expediency. How then can we expect that the ideal service to the public, as expounded by the professional journals

fect of this division of authority is really appalling. First of all, the librarians in charge are likely to be appointed in much the same manner as the main library "heads," that is, without regard to ability or fitness. Mere mechanical dexterity seems to these half-taught "librarians" to be the very essence of perfection in library work, and their own worth and that of those under them they judge solely by the ability to put on labels artistically, or by the number of books charged per minute. That a knowledge of what is in the books is one of the first requisites of librarianship does not seem to occur to them. Necessarily then their first and last resource in reference work is the ever-ready encyclopedia; the boundless treasure of knowledge that lies in other books on their shelves is entirely unknown to them, and unused.

The political evil is almost equalled by another that is rife in some libraries, namely, personal favoritism. Invidious discrimination, unmerited preferment, unusual indulgences, and an entire release from rules and freedom from penalties are the particular signs of this favoritism. Trained and practical assistants, those who have made their work a real study, are often found chafing under the authority of some half-taught man or woman who happens to have the private ear of one of the "board." Nepotism, too, is responsible for many an unsuitable person securing position and promotion out of all proportion to ability.

This, then, is what we find on the other side of library work. Yet, black as is the picture, there are not wanting signs to encourage us. The profession is undergoing a process of transformation from the state where it was said that when a man failed in every other enterprise he became a librarian, to the present position where experts from every field are attracted, and librarianship is rapidly taking its place among the learned professions. Gradually but surely the abuses and blunders of the early days are being corrected, our library schools—whose graduates are usually women of good breeding—are being drawn upon more and more for trained assistants; our librarians are often men of wide knowledge, expert in the varied details of their profession. The future is bright when we have the assurance that such excellent appointments as have lately been made in several State libraries, and notably in the national library at Washington, are likely to be duplicated.

LIBRARIAN.

Jan. 26. 1784

On motion of Mr. Howell, seconded by Mr. Lee

Ordered, That the secretary deliver to Josiah Hewes, one of the directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, two sets of the Journals of Congress, neatly bound, for the use of the said Library Company.

J. of C.

Liby. Co. of Phila.

Danl. Bowen. Hist. of Phila.

Phila., 1839. p 177

"The first (circulating library) in London was commenced in the Strand, by a bookseller of the name of Wright, about the year 1740; he was succeeded by Bathe, who was succeeded by Sir John Bell; his library has lately been sold at auction. The number of circulating libraries in Great Britain in 1800 was one thousand. In the capital of the United States there are two, and Boston in New England boasts of one.

Port Folio Feb. 27, 1802 p. 63

Liby. Co. of Phila.

v. Port Folio July 10. 1802

Complaint to Directors etc.

" " " July 18, 1801 p. 251
on its late opening

Route of the Fifth and Sixth-Street Railroad—No. 8.

THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY—PAT LYON—THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.

Next door to the Dispensary is the Mercantile Library building. The Mercantile Library Association was founded in the year 1821, principally for the purpose of providing for young men engaged in mercantile pursuits a pleasant safe place of resort after business hours, and the means of access to books and periodicals suited to their wants, and calculated to improve their tastes. The first meeting in reference to this association was held at the Masonic Hall, Nov. 10th, 1821. A week after, a larger meeting of those particularly interested in the undertaking was held in the Mayor's court-room, when a committee of our most respected citizens was appointed to draw up a constitution for the new company. This constitution was adopted unanimously December 1st, 1821. Within a short time the articles of association were signed by over three hundred persons, and on the 10th of January the first election of officers was held at the Merchants' Coffee House, Second and Walnut streets. In a few days the board organized, and secured the second story of No. 100 Chestnut street at a rent of $100 per annum for their rooms, and appointed a librarian. At this time the rooms were kept open only in the evenings. Membership cost $3; the half-yearly contribution was $1. The company became a joint-stock concern in January, 1826. $300 shares of $10 each were made, the annual dues on which were $1. The old *half-yearly* dollar payment was returned to in 1831, when *subscribers* not being *stockholders* were admitted to the privileges of the library for $3 per year, payable semi-annually. In April, 1826, the library rooms were changed to the second story of the building, northeast corner of Sixth and Chestnut, where Brown's iron building now stands, and during the next year it was moved to No. 144 Chestnut street, in the building then occupied by the American Sunday-School Union. From this, in 1835, the library was transferred to No. 134 Chestnut street, over the store lately occupied by L. J. Levy, next door to the Custom House, where it remained until their present building was ready for their use, July 1st, 1845. The company was incorporated, first in 1828 and again, with larger powers, in 1842. During the year past, 1,355 volumes have been added to its shelves, making a total of sixteen thousand in the library. Forty-six thousand three hundred volumes were taken out in 1858, the large increase over the year preceding showing a widely extended usefulness. It has become a place of great attraction for ladies as well as for those for whom it was particularly designed. The number of persons using the library (stockholders and subscribers) is nearly two thousand.

The library building was begun in October, 1844, from a design by the late Wm. Johnston. Its cost was a fraction over $23,000. The lot, one hundred feet on Library street by fifty on Fifth street, cost $21,000. The many offices in the building produce by their rent quite a large amount, last year nearly half the revenue. Each year improvements are making; and though, of course there will be, on some points, differences of opinion, the library has been a source of pleasure and profit to very many.

There are now forty-six periodicals taken here, many of them foreign, and thirty-seven newspapers, from various parts of our country and Europe.

At present the terms of the library are as follows: Persons may become stockholders by paying *ten dollars*, which entitles them to one share of stock, subject to an annual payment of *two dollars*.

Any person may become a life member by the payment of *thirty dollars*.

Persons may become subscribers by the payment of *three dollars* annually.

About the beginning of this century Patrick (better known as Pat) Lyon had his blacksmith shop on the site of the library. He was a real "rara avis," a man of great ingenuity and no little eccentricity. He constructed nearly all the iron safes and safe-locks used in this city, and indeed was the most expert of Philadelphia locksmiths. There is a story told of him that a safe with a spring-lock belonging to one of our prominent merchants was accidentally shut *with the key inside*. Pat was sent for to open it, which he did in a twinkling, and charged ten dollars for his services. This was deemed extortionate, and in truth it was rather a high price. On the demand being refused, shut went the door, and Pat stalked off. No one else could open the lock, however, and Pat was again summoned. This time the price, now doubled, was paid without haggling, and our locksmith was twenty dollars in pocket by the operation. In 1798, the Philadelphia Bank, then located in Carpenters' Hall, (that noted place where the First Continental Congress met, and which was, at different times, occupied by the Philadelphia Library Company, and the United States custom house,) was robbed of over $160,000. Suspicion fell upon Lyon of having, as was supposed, furnished the robbers (one of whom died soon after, and the other was scared into a confession of the crime) with duplicate keys of the vaults. He was tried, convicted, and for some months confined in the old prison at Sixth and Walnut streets. Many thought at the time the

evidence offered was too slight, and he was, not very long afterward, released. He commenced a suit against the bank for false prosecution, and recovered $14,000 damages. As far as money was concerned, the affair was a good speculation. Lyon was celebrated as a builder of fire-engines, and, if we mistake not, it was not long since one of them was in use in this city.

Dr. Gallagher built a fine mansion on this spot. For some time previous to the erection of the Mercantile Library, this was occupied as a boarding-house. Adam Ramage had for many years a shop for the manufacture of printing-presses in Library street, opposite the Custom House. He made some valuable inventions in his line.

Crossing Library street, we come to that which gives it its name—the building of the Library Company of Philadelphia, erected here in 1789. Here, we are told by Watson, used to stand a rural-looking cottage, the residence of the gardener who had charge of the grounds attached to the Norris mansion, which stood where the Custom House, formerly the United Bank, was erected. In this house, when Isaac Norris (whom we have had occasion to refer to in connection with the State House and Independence bell) was Speaker, the Assembly of Pennsylvania sometimes met when he was unable to leave home to attend their sittings. Half this square was, it is said, given by William Penn to the chain-bearer who assisted to lay out the city. The Norris garden included, besides the ground occupied by the Custom House, all that next to Fifth, bounded on the south by Library street, or rather a line over which that street has since been laid out. On the Fifth street part was a line of willow trees, represented in the background of the view of the State House taken by C. W Peale, in 1778. It is said that Franklin had these set out, obtaining the slips from a wicker basket he found sprouting in Dock street. We have at this time space to enter only on a description and history of the library building. In our next we will recount the annals of the company. In 1737, the directors were informed by their secretary that "the proprietor was pleased to say that nothing remained to delay his grant of a lot of ground he intended to bestow on the company for their library." It was perhaps rather premature in them to return thanks promptly for this present, for they did not receive it until *twenty-five years* afterward! The lot was in Chestnut street, near Ninth, and yielded a small revenue for some years to the company.

In 1770 the board petitioned the Assembly for a grant of a part of the State-House lot for the erection of their building, but, from some cause, this was refused. The stockholders resolved that, for the present, at least, they would not build anywhere else. In 1784 the Philosophical Society and Library Company petitioned the Legislature for two lots on State House yard. The petition was, that the Philosophical Society should have eighty feet front by forty feet deep on Sixth street, midway between Walnut and Chestnut streets, and the said library a like space of ground on Fifth street, directly opposite the former. The appeal, at first unsuccessful, was renewed the next session of the Legislature. The petition, however, was changed, in what seems an underhand way, by members of the Philosophical Society, so as to request for *themselves* the lot on Fifth street. The library company would not unite with the Philosophical Society in the petition, conceiving itself unfairly treated by them, but presented a separate petition, asking, as before, for the Fifth-street lot. The board thought an institution visited daily, as the library, by so many persons, should not be placed *so far up town* as Sixth street, while to the Philosophical Society, being a place of much less resort, the difference would be but slight. However, the Philosophical Society was successful, the library not. There was some talk afterwards, of the society and the library company uniting, to erect a building for their joint occupancy but it was thought that the danger from fire in that case would be far greater than if the library were located in a separate edifice. June 1st, 1789, it was resolved, at a general meeting of the company, at which Bishop White presided, to sell the real estate and ground rents belonging to the company, and so soon as one hundred new members should be added to the list, to procure a lot and proceed to build upon it. The lot purchased on ground rent (which was afterwards paid off) from Mary Norris and Dr. Logan, extended to Chestnut street. The northern portion was, however, soon afterwards disposed of, several of the officers advancing money to enable the work to be proceeded with. The corner-stone of the library building was laid August 31st, 1789. The inscription on it, except so far as it relates to himself, (this being added by the committee,) was composed by Dr. Franklin:

> "Be it remembered
> In honor of the Philadelphia youth
> (then chiefly artificers)
> that in MDCCXXXI
> they cheerfully
> at the instance of Benjamin Franklin
> one of their number
> instituted the Philadelphia Library
> is become highly valuable and extensively useful
> and which the walls of this edifice
> are now destined to contain and preserve;
> the first stone of this foundation
> was here placed
> the thirty-first day of August 1789"

At the close of the succeeding year, the library was ready to open. The directors intending to set up a statue of Franklin in front of the building, Wm. Bingham, Esq., offered to procure one at his own expense. It was understood that Dr. Franklin "would approve of a gown for his dress *and a Roman head*." The statue was made in Italy, by Francis Lazzarini, from a bust and drawings sent over for the purpose. The neglect, which was quite unintentional on the part of Mr. Everett, to allude to this statue, was noticed by many who heard, last winter, his beautiful oration on Franklin, at the Academy of Music. This was said, at the time when set up, to be the most finished sculpture America can exhibit. In 1792, an additional building was erected to the east for the accommodation of the Loganian Library. The extension northward was made quite recently.

—In ancient Canterbury exists a free library, for which has just been printed a new catalogue that speaks ill for the compiler's familiarity with modern literature. Under "H. Esmond," as author, he has entered one of Thackeray's novels, and under "A. Pendennis," also as author, he has entered another. *Robinson Crusoe* he classes with biographies, and Harrison Ainsworth's *Tower of London* with guide-books. Under a system like this he would no doubt class Miss Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* another psychological treatises, and, of course, the famous work on Irish bulls would go again into "Agriculture."

—Some amusing errors have been noted in the catalogue of books advertised for sale in Cincinnati. Among them the following are the most entertaining: — "Science Before Death," properly "Signs Before Death;" "A Few of the Evidences of Christianity," Paley's title being "A View of the Evidences," etc.; "Correlation and Conversation of Horses" is the transformation which the proper title, "Correlation and Conservation of Forces," undergoes; "Horses of Nature" should read "Forces of Nature;" and "The Cub Bear" would be more intelligible as "The Cup-bearer."

The fishing spears used

"DONE INTO LATIN BY ONE MARO."

From the London Figaro.

A correspondent says: "I am interested in your paragraph relative to the catalogue of the Canterbury Free Library. I do not know, of course, by whom that document was compiled, but am disposed to believe that the gentleman to whom the authorship belongs must be the lineal descendant or near relation of an auctioneer in the West Riding of Yorkshire, who some 30 years ago created some sensation at the 'sale of a gentleman's library,' by putting up for competition Dryden's 'Virgil' done into Latin by one Maro. I am not aware who became the happy possessor of that unique work, but it appears not improbable that it may have found its way to the Free Library at Canterbury."

Oct/82
Eve'g Telegraph

AN ODD BLUNDER.—"Everybody," says a writer in the London *World*, "has heard of the accomplished catalogue maker, who put down in his list 'Mill, on Liberty; do., on the Floss.' But a travelling correspondent tells me that in the library of a Swiss hotel he recently lighted on a volume entitled on the back 'Bart,' which on examination proved to be a work by Sir John ock, Bart.

DR. BLAST'S WORK.—A public library is not the place where one would expect to meet with sham book titles; but a book met the gaze of the late Prof. de Morgan, of Cambridge, on his first visit to the reading-room of the Museum, which might have been mistaken for a "dummy." He began his inspection, he says, at the ladies' end, where the Bibles and theological works are placed, and the very first book he looked at the back of had in flaming gold letters the startling and profane title, "Blast the Antinomians." Thus did the binder apostrophise the sect whose history had been written by Dr. Blast by omitting the separating line between the first two words.—*Chambers's Journal.*

—The person who arranged the catalogue of the Monte Carlo Library has an original mind. These are some of the titles set down therein:—[illegible] *frisch Sketch Book, the autocratoff the Break Fast, Far Freud the Madding Crowd, The liffie Lame Prince, Fizebel's Dangliter*, and *The Forlom Hope.*

Ohnet is finishing at a country

"Un bibliothecaire moine trouvant un livre Hebreu, et ne sachant sous quel titre le mettre dans son catalogue, mit; Plus un livre dont le commencement est a la fin"

Menagiana. Ams., 1713
2d vol. p. 135

Errors in Cataloguing See "Bibliographer"
vol. 3. p. 8. vol. 4 p. 55

— " —

a couple of edifying errors in Phila. Lib'y Catalog

Sales – Epigrammata

West (Matthew) – Flores hist. p. 779

The Blunders of Cataloguers.

The London *Library* prints the following *bona fide* extracts from book catalogues:

Cookery.—Holmes (O. W.), Autocrat of the breakfast-table.

Logic.—Napier (John), De arte logistica.

Sheep.—Ruskin (John), Notes on the construction of sheepfolds.

Maro (*Virgilius Publius*), Opera omnia.

Ditto *ditto* Anglicæ historiæ.

Music.—*Maro* (*V. P.*), Opera omnia.

Dramatists of the *Reformation.*

Anthropology.—Gilfillan, History of a Man.

Parasites.—Cobbold (Dr.), Notes on *infernal* parasites.

Insanity.—Erasmus, Praise of folly.

Ocean, see Sea.
Sea, see Ocean. } From same catalogue.

Route of the Fifth and Sixth-Street Railroad—No. 10.

THE PHILADELPHIA LIBRARY.

[For The Press.]

We have finished up briefly the history of the Philadelphia Library, yet there are a few interesting facts in connection with it which we should not omit to mention. It should have been stated in our last, that Mr. Mackenzie, who was a native of Philadelphia, left, in 1828, the greater part of his books to the Loganian Library; of the rest, some, as then stated, were presented to, others bought of his executors by, the Philadelphia Library. We shall not, in these few remarks, discriminate between what belongs to the Loganian, and what to the Philadelphia, but consider the former as forming a part of the latter, just as if before the consolidation of the city we included the city and surrounding incorporated built-up districts under the general name *Philadelphia.* At present the library is open daily, except Sunday, Christmas day, &c., from ten o'clock to sunset. To determine the ending of the period, and signify it to readers, the large clock in the back room was constructed, which, when in order, strikes just at sunset, the time, of course, varying daily, and only then. It is considered quite a curiosity in its way, and is in the room appropriated especially to the Loganian Library. A few years since a member of the British Parliament, while exploring an old "curiosity shop," came to an ancient painting, which, though possessed of few attractions as a work of art, was shown, by an inscription upon it, to be "The South East prospect of the City of Philadelphia, by Peter Cooper, painter." The gentleman procured it for Mr. Dallas, our Minister at the Court of St. James, who kindly transmitted it to the Library. It measures about eight feet by one and a half. It is shown, by comparison with other views, and by what we know of the condition of the city, to be the earliest view of Philadelphia which we have, dating, probably, from about the year 1720, not long before which, we are informed by minutes of the City Council, "Peter Cooper Painter was admitted Ffreeman of Philadelphia on payment of 5 shillings 6 pence." Mr. Cooper does not appear to have been an adept in perspective. Fortunately, and this is a great merit of the work as it is, he has placed numbers over the principal buildings, with reference to a list appended. By this some of us can see where our ancestors lived, and in what kind of houses; for though his comparative ignorance of perspective made his combinations unfortunate, it is probable that the separate buildings are delineated with considerable accuracy. This painting hangs just under the clock we mentioned. Ancient manuscripts are naturally rare in this country. Such, if of any considerable value, are rarely sold at public sale, or, if so, are disposed of chiefly to bibliomaniacs at what most would consider *very* high prices. This rarity makes more interesting a copy of the Bible written beautifully on parchment in the year 1016 (before the Norman conquest of England). It is about the size of a small-paged stout octavo. Its characters are clearly formed, and were it not for the many abbreviations employed, which confuse one not used to them, although in Old English characters would be very legible. Initial letters, in red and blue are interspersed through its pages. Next to this, and more beautiful, though some one has trimmed down the edges too closely, is a copy of the Book of Psalms written in 1060, about the time of William the Conqueror's invasion. Its characters are generally similar to those of the Bible we just now mentioned, but the initials are more finely designed and executed. Appended to the psalms is a collection of prayers, in which it is interesting to some of us to see, with in some cases, hardly a variation, except the translation from Latin into English, the same prayers we use yet. Another psalter, written, it is believed, in Germany during the fifteenth century, (it is not dated,) is, perhaps, the most beautiful of the three, though not the most interesting. Its pages of vellum are whiter and cleaner than many a deed fresh from the office; the letters are like those we now use in print, and, what many highly prize, there is a broad clear margin around the page. It has, as the other, prayers annexed, *and some music.* Perhaps, some of our musicians, if they would study it out, would find the latter a jewel. Not knowing, can't say.

The collection of large folio volumes of plates of Egyptian, and Ninevite, and Mexican antiquities; a volume illustrating the antiquities of Paris, which will be indeed a record of the past if Louis Napoleon continues to pull down and build up as he has been doing, (this volume, with one on the Hotel de Ville, was presented by the city of Paris,) are of great value, and were published by aid of various Governments of Europe at enormous expense.

Perhaps there is nothing here more interesting to the most of our readers, than the collection of Philadelphia newspapers from the beginning to the present day. The first is Bradford's American Mercury, of which the set is complete. This reaches from 1719-1745. Next comes the Pennsylvania Gazette, printed first by Samuel Keimer, from whom it was soon bought by Franklin, and continued by Hall & Sellers, extending from 1728-1804. The Pennsylvania Journal is from 1747-1793. The Pennsylvania Packet, commencing in 1771, merged in the Federal and Philadelphia Gazette in 1788, in 1845 in the United States Gazette; now the North American and United States Gazette. Of English periodicals, of which there is quite a number, the most generally interesting is the Gentleman's Magazine, of which there is a full set here from the beginning to the present time. It was commenced in 1731 by Edward Cave, a printer, as a monthly condensation of the newspapers, a storehouse or magazine in which loose scraps are collected. It soon after changed from this to be a repository also of original articles and essays, such as the term *magazine* includes now. Dr. Johnson was one of its earliest contributors, and his receipts from his writings for it, though small, were for a considerable time a principal source of his living. The library has a volume of manuscript papers of James I, many of them with his autograph. Rev. Mr. Preston, who, as stated, gave his books to the library, did so at the solicitation of Benjamin West, the great painter. West painted his likeness, and Mrs. West made a present of it to be placed with the books. It is considered by those competent to judge to be a fine work of art. Two old clocks stand, one on each side, as you enter the room; that to the left belonged to William Penn, the other *is said to have been* Cromwell's. The price of a share in this company is $40, the annual payment $4. This is higher than in the Mercantile, but the collection of books here is by far the more valuable of the two. There are naturally many more of the old standard works in science and literature, and the additions made yearly are selected with very good judgment, from the best works published at home and abroad. It is not intended as the other for a *reading* room. The Loganian Library contains about ten thousand books; the Philadelphia Library proper, nearly sixty thousand; in all, not far from seventy thousand. It is intended, so soon as sufficient means are provided, to erect either upon the same or some other site, a fire-proof building to contain these treasures. The loss of the Congressional Library by fire was so great, and so irremediable too, for much could never be replaced, that it should excite care to preserve the yet more valuable collection we have here. Quite a large amount has been already subscribed, but more is needed.

It may seem incongruous to speak of hack drivers and the library in the same paper; but, locally, they are not far removed, and passenger railroads and public carriages have much in common. The latter must be one would think, much affected by the new facilities for locomotion in almost every direction afforded by the cars. Are not cab-drivers' charges too high? They are much lower in London and Paris, (about half what they are here,) and as a conveyance are far more used. The whole matter is more carefully managed there than here, and extortion, or even incivility, more readily brought to account. What is to be done? Unless the system here is remodeled, it seems likely that hack-men will find "their occupation gone." But they may say, how can we keep two horses and a fine carriage and make anything by it if we reduce our prices? We can hardly get along now. What is the use in two horses and such carriages as you have? If a man wishes to go half a mile to a railroad station with a valise or a small trunk, does he need two horses to take him there, or a carriage large enough for a family? In Paris or London, if a gentleman, or two, or three, or even four, wish to take a short ride, they can hire a light one-horse carriage, which is just as convenient, and quite as nice as ours, but for which they have to pay only a reasonable price, because the expenses are not unreasonable. A common mode of conveyance in London is by what are called Hansom cabs, or simply hansoms. These are light vehicles with seats for two, the top shaped like a buggy top, but made of wood, perched up behind which the driver has perfect control of the horse, and leaves the view interrupted in part, and the passengers to enjoy their privacy to their hearts' content, while they are whirled along quite a good-sized ride for a quarter of a dollar.

Why not try these, or, if you please, an Irish jaunting car? Wouldn't these make a sensation? Why must every one who wishes to ride be compelled to go in what must be expensive, paying for three or more extra seats and a second horse to keep the other from being lonesome? Taken in connection with the passenger railroads, the baggage express system, by which baggage can be checked at your own door for delivery at any depot, will, unless a change is made, take away the patronage of many accustomed to use carriages. All men do not have to wear dress-coats, whether they will or no. Some prefer frock or sack coats, and they are accommodated. If tailors made but one kind of coat, their trade would perhaps suffer little, for few would adopt the alternative of going without. But we are every day getting more independent of hackney coaches. The public will not accommodate itself to hackmen; let them then yield to the public, for Mahomet went to the mountain when the mountain would not come to him.

MR. HARRIS'S PLAN TO OPEN RIDGEWAY LIBRARY TO THE PUBLIC

Select Councilman Franklin M. Harris, of the Thirty-second Ward, is strongly in favor of letting down the bars of exclusiveness at the Ridgeway Library, Broad and Christian sts., for the benefit of the general public. In an interview he said:

It is one of the finest libraries in the country, and the fact that it is a scientific library, is no reason why it should be attended by an average of two persons a day. Thousands of boys and girls are studying the scienes in our public schools, and I doubt if many of them are aware that such a library exists in this city.

This, I think, is because the library is conducted too exclusively. It is non-circulative. I, for one, am of the opinion that it would be better patronized if the proper methods were applied. I would first suggest that the light stone wall which surrounds the sides of the building be torn away and an ornate iron railing substituted. Place large gates here and there so that residents of the vicinity could use the ground on warm nights in summer.

"If scientific studies only attract two people there a day, the library is a failure, and the sooner the remedy is applied for increasing its usefulness the better. People living down town should have access to a library in keeping with the finely-equipped ones uptown and the wisdom of the change I think would manifest itself almost instantly. The library should be free at all times to everybody, and as a public institution, pure and simple, it would be a benefit to thousands where it is but a benefit to a few now."

Boston Writer and Prominent Ma Accused of Big Book Theft

Special to The Inquirer.

BOSTON, Jan. 17.—Accused of having taken several hundred rare books, which included a copy of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Fanshawe," valued at $500, from the Boston Public Library, the Boston University and Boston College Library, Frederick Henry Bates, a writer and a member of a prominent Hyde Park family, was locked up to-day at police headquarters by detectives. The police announce that he has said that the copy of "Fanshawe" is in the possession of a New York book dealer.

In Mr. Bates' home at Hyde Park the police found 1035 books. Over the library mark in the books thin paper had been neatly pasted. The detectives to-night said that 500 books belonging to the different libraries and valued at between $3000 and $4000 are to be accounted for.

Chief Watts has been receiving reports for several months that libraries have been losing rare books.

PUBLIC LEDGER—

RIDGWAY LIBRARY'S SIGN GOES IN AS ITS DOORS OPEN TO SUNSHINE

"Lack-of-Fuel" Notice Retreats Before Warm Weather, but Few Visit Storage House of Unused Books

WITH the thermometer registering 73 degrees, the Ridgway Branch of the Library Company of Philadelphia, at Broad and Christian streets, yesterday opened its doors, after having been closed since December 16, 1918, "for lack of fuel." The celebrated sign proclaiming this fact was taken in.

The event, however, made little if any stir in the neighborhood. George Maurice Abbot, general librarian and treasurer of the company, when asked if any people had been inside the building during the day, answered:

"I was there."

"Any one else, Mr. Abbot?"

"Not that I know of," he replied, "but I was there in the morning. Two or three people may have dropped in during the afternoon.'

In strong contrast to the scant attendance at the Ridgway Branch Library Company are some figures given in the twenty-second annual report of the Free Library of Philadelphia, just published, concerning the branch of this institution at Broad and Federal streets, a stone's throw from the Ridgway.

In the year 1917, says the report, more than 43,000 persons visited the branch, a daily average of 123. This is ten times the number of visitors to the Ridgway Library. According to Mr. Abbot, more than twelve persons have never been seen in that building in the course of a day.

While the Ridgway Library, according to its own officials, is virtually nothing but a storage place for unused books, more than 103,000 volumes were taken out of the Free Library Branch for home-reading, the report states. Yet this branch owns only about 13,000 books, showing that volumes have been borrowed again and again.

The Ridgway Library site occupies an entire city block, and the building is a large granite structure, real estate and building together representing an investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars. On the other hand, the brisk and useful business of the Free Library Branch is carried on in the comparatively small second-story room of an old dwelling.

Light was thrown yesterday on the circumstances under which the fund to build and operate the Ridgway Branch was willed to the Library Company of Philadelphia, by John Calvert, a great-nephew of Dr. James Rush, the testator. Mr. Calvert, a real estate expert with offices at 1615 Sansom street, declared that his great-uncle was "a most eccentric man."

"In 1896, the year of his death, Doctor Rush willed that a considerable part of his fortune, which amounted to close to $2,000,000, an immense sum for that time, should be used for a library in memory of his wife, who was Miss Phoebe Ann Ridgway," said Mr. Calvert. "Not many people know that, under the will, both my great-uncle and his wife were interred in the library, embedded in concrete.

"The Library Company of Philadelphia at first refused to accept the legacy, declaring there was no need for a branch. There was a lawsuit and the Library Company lost. While my uncle left this large sum for what since has been shown to be a useless purpose, he stipulated in his will that several of his nieces should be paid '$1 a day for life, provided they did not marry or leave the country.'

"This clause and some others as well showed the eccentric character of the man. One clause over which there was much legal debate prescribed that 'the library shall close at or about sundown every day except Sunday.'"

Librarian

A do mussel-one.

Gents. Mag. vol. 243 (Jul.-Dec. 1878)
p. 225

RIDGWAY LIBRARY (Ada C.)

The Ridgway Library, the property of the Library Company of Philadelphia, (whose main building is at corner of Locust and Juniper streets) occupies a block of its own on South Broad street between Christian and Carpenter streets.

It is a free library only in the sense that it is open free to the public for reading purposes; but the books are not loaned to the public free of cost. Indeed the literary works kept there are, generally speaking, the oldest and the most valuable in the company's possession, and are not of the kind that appeals most to the general public.

It was given its present name by its founder, Dr. James Rush, whose wife was Phoebe Ann, a daughter of Jacob Ridgway, a very wealthy shipping merchant, who died in 1843, leaving a large estate. Dr. Rush, mindful of the fact that he had inherited most of the fortune he owned in his declining years from his father-in-law, willed a million dollars to the founding of the library which now perpetuates the latter's name.

The building was accepted by the Library Company May 6, 1878.

Inquirer, Sunday 3 Mar 1918

THE EPHEMERAL BOSS.

NO COAL FOR RIDGWAY LIBRARY

It can hardly be contended that Mr. LEWIS' order shutting off coal from the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library is a public calamity, although it is a matter of regret. This valuable institution is sought almost entirely by scholars or those in search of special information, and its daily patronage is small compared with the size of the building and the value of its contents. The visitor who walks its tiled floors wakes echoes heard by few, and he feels as if he were in one of the tombs of the PHARAOHS.

There never was a better collection of books more poorly located than those in the Ridgway Library, but that is not the fault of the managers. It is forty years or more since the famous litigation ended which located the classic structure in a section which is seldom seen except by those who live nearby. The building is imposing, and one wishes it were located on the line of the Parkway, where it would be more available for research, or that the institution may some day be brought into alliance with the Free Library of the city, when the fine building intended for it shall come into existence on that great avenue of the future.

...s for the best seats will be reduced to $1.

BOOK-STEALING.

Curious Developments of the Police Courts — Clerical Thieves — Libri, the King of Book-stealers.

If book thieves, says the *St. James' Gazette*, were invariably or even frequently book-lovers, the whole tribe might be worthy of some consideration; but the proceedings at one of the London Police Courts recently prove that such is not the case—if, indeed, further proof were needed. To steal books simply for the purpose of selling them is about the most degraded form of the theft. Such instances are, however, far from rare; and only the other day a Parisian bookseller was "relieved," within twenty-four hours, of an excessively rare edition of Doret's *Les Baisers*, for which a sum of 600f. had been paid. But M. Rondeau got his book back, and the thief a term of imprisonment.

Book-stealing is an art upon which much ingenuity has been expended. One never knows in what form it will next break out. It is an incident by no means uncommon in Booksellers' row for a bibliopole to be offered a book which had been stolen from his next-door neighbor. There is something more than a tradition to the effect that a bookseller has on occasion purchased a book taken a minute or two previously from the shelves outside his shop!

The book-thief always comes to a bad end. Generally he poisons himself, as did the champion biblioklept of America—a young man who had been a student at the Harvard Divinity School, and who passed under several aliases. This industrious person stole books by the hundred from the Public Library of Chicago and from other libraries to which he had access; but he was not a book-thief pure and simple, for he stole anything upon which he could lay hands, including a doctor's horse and carriage. Quite another species of this genius was detected in New York some time ago. A wealthy and well-known man was a frequent visitor at the Astor Library, and not the shadow of a suspicion fell upon him, although a number of books were missed. After his death, which occurred suddenly, the librarian picked out nearly 200 volumes that he had carried off at different times, and obviously without the smallest intention of returning them.

A favorite mode of stealing books from public libraries is to procure a book, sit down to read it, and then wrap it up in an overcoat, and after this to take up a paper or magazine. The rest is easily guessed. The public libraries suffer in all sorts of ways; for here the accumulated wisdom of the thief finds plenty of scope. Some of the tribe have a mania for old directories. Librarians complain frequently of the clerical thief of sermons and theological literature. Novels and "books of the bibliophile" (as the French call them) one can understand being stolen; but sermons and theology! Women, more or less—generally more—respectably dressed, are often objects of suspicion with librarians; for the "receptivity" of cloaks is infinite, and the "feelings" of the culprit must also be considered. As a general rule the thief is well-dressed and educated, and frequently well-to-do.

Whatever may be the causes which prompt a person to steal books, there is always this consolation—he is in good company. This balm may not be a very healing one to the soul of the person whose books are stolen. But it must be consolatory to the thief, when repenting in prison, to know that some great

…HILADELPHIA INQUIRER, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 3, 1922

...Hearne... *Johannes Glastoniensis*, more than hints that Sir Thomas Bodley had a weakness in this direction: "If you hold," he warns Sir Henry Saville, "any booke so deare as that you would bee loath to have him out of your sight, set him aside," etc. Moore, Bishop of Ely, has likewise come under such a stigma. The anecdote runs to this effect: A gentleman calling on a friend who had a very choice library found him unusually busy in putting his best books out of sight; upon asking his view in this, he was answered, "Don't you know the Bishop of —— dines with me to day?"

The very king of book-stealers was Libri, who, as Inspector-General of French Libraries under Louis Philippe, had special facilities for helping himself, and whose known thefts have been valued at £20,000 The most interesting illustration of this man's depredations was exposed in 1868, when Lord Ashburnham issued a translation of the Pentateuch from a Latin MS. which had been purchased by the late Lord Ashburnham from Libri, who had sold it under the condition that it was not to be published for twenty years. It had been stolen in 1847 from the Lyons Library, and the last clause of the agreement, therefore, could be easily understood. Libri evidently was not one of those whom Jules Janin describes as "people who don't think it thieving to steal a book unless you sell it afterwards."

Innocent X., when still Monsignor Pamphilio, stole a book from Du Moustier, who was himself a book-thief and ought to have been au courant with the devices and designs of his own weaknesses. It is refreshing to come across an example when the tables are so completely turned; and if anything would induce an honest man to turn book thief, it should be the exhilarating fun of stealing from another thief. It is reported, however, that Du Moustier recovered the book and kicked the Cardinal out of the house. Catherine de Medici went in for thieving books wholesale and barefaced: she seized the fine library of Marshal Strozzi and promised to pay his son for it in instalments, but never a farthing did he get.

Of quite another and equally extreme type was the Spanish priest Don Vincento, who sold books, and then murdered the purchasers to regain possession of his coveted treasures. Like most of the biblioklept tribe, he came to grief at last. The original edition (1482) of the "Furs e ordinacions fetes per los gloriosos Reys de Arago als regnicols del regne de Valencia" was offered for sale by auction, and after a long and obstinate competition was knocked down to a bookseller named Paxtot. A week afterwards Paxtot's shop was burned down, and he was suffocated at the same time. Suspicion was directed towards Don Vincento, whose residence was searched, and there at length was discovered the incunabule above named. The priest was arrested, and at the trial he confessed,—not from contrition or the fear of torments in the next world, but because it appeared that the volume was not unique, as had been supposed! He sobbed violently when he was condemned to be strangled, and the only defence he vouchsafed was, "Ah! your worship, my copy was not unique."

WOMAN ... B...

A... PH...

Girard's Talk of the Day

A TRANSACTION in art impends in Philadelphia which will be of wide interest.

I understand that the ancient Philadelphia Library, oldest in America, is considering a proposal to sell its portrait of Washington painted by Gilbert Stuart.

Since this Library is privately owned, and not publicly, as many suppose, it may do with its property whatever it pleases. However, if the painting were to leave Philadelphia there would be lasting regret.

Stuart painted many portraits of Washington, but the most famous of them, known as the Atheneum, because it is owned by the Atheneum at Boston, was painted at Stuart's studio here in Germantown. It is the one from which millions of copies in sizes ranging from a postage stamp to full life have been made.

* * * *

STUART liked that portrait so well himself that he made many copies of it which he sold like hot cakes.

He called it his "Hundred Dollar Bill." According to the painter, it is the best likeness of Washington.

He said the sockets around Washington's eyes were larger than any he had ever seen—you observe the big orbs in the painting.

And Stuart said also that the top of Washington's nose was thicker than any "white man's nose" he had ever beheld. And the broad nose you may also see in that famous portrait.

Washington used to drive from his Executive Mansion on Market near Sixth street, out Germantown avenue to Stuart's studio, where a big apple tree stood in the yard.

The painter left it on record that the only way he could get a smile out of the President was to talk about horses. At other times his countenance was immobile—what sports would call a "poker face."

* * * *

WHEN Franklin started the Philadelphia Library he described it as the "Mother of all North American subscription libraries.

It is now 191 years old. At first the books were kept in Robert Grace's house and the celebrated James Logan took great interest in the company's affairs. Many valuable books were acquired ... the Penns and others made gi... historic intere...

Senator W... sonal...

curious anecdote I heard from —. He ~~saw~~ somewhat
a m.s. Hist. R. Fulton had presented an atlas of
his drawings to New Jersey Hist. Socy. applying for
~~them~~ was told Socy. never had them. By kicking
up a row a general search was instituted & they
were found under a wood box
of the -

...and ... Penns ...
...ifts which have a rare ...st.

...William Bingham paid personally for the statue of Franklin which for generations occupied a niche in the front of the library building. Howe, Cornwallis and their British troops left this library intact during the winter they held the city, but they often used the books.

A complete American newspaper file running back more than 200 years is one of the Library treasures, but it has so many others it would take a big volume to enumerate them.

* * * *

IT was about half a century ago that Doctor James Rush left a fortune of over $1,000,000 with which was built that stately Ridgeway Branch of the Philadelphia Library which travelers down South Broad street never fail to admire.

As I have said, the Philadelphia Library is a privately owned company and could sell not only its Washington portrait, but anything else.

How ancient that company is can be indicated by the fact that the shares of its stock still stand in shillings—a far-off echo of that day when all America employed none but the money of the British mother country.

* * * *

[illegible] We Read Now?

A New England agricultural journal, the *Homestead*, published at Springfield, has been consulting its readers, in the usual manner of prize questions, as to what they consider the "best" books. The answers are instructive—not as a guide to reading, but as an illustration of what the rural New Englander of the present day esteems good literature.

The preferences of the *Homestead* readers are scattered over a very wide field. More than a thousand books were voted for, but the ten that received the highest number of votes were: "Ben-Hur," "Ramona," "David Copperfield," "Ivanhoe," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Little Women," "John Halifax," "Looking Backward," "Jane Eyre" and "Adam Bede." The selection and arrangement of these titles, with Lew Wallace and H. H. at the head and George Eliot at the foot is nothing short of grotesque. But the most remarkable feature is not that the readers of the *Homestead* prefer "Little Women" to "John Halifax," but that their whole idea of literature is evidently confined to novels and chiefly to the latest novels.

This is a state of things not peculiar to rural New England. On the contrary, it might have been thought that the older literary traditions would have survived there as they have nowhere else; but the circulating library is everywhere in New England and the magazines and literary weeklies and the bookseller's circulars go into every farm house. That older and more solid works are not entirely neglected appears in the second list of ten, which is headed, indeed, by "Little Lord Fauntleroy," but in which the second place—twelfth in order of preference—is accorded to the Bible. Time was when the Bible held a higher rank in the New England farm house. After the Bible come Longfellow's poems, "Barriers Burned Away," "Pilgrim's Progress," Shakespeare, "Innocents Abroad," "Vanity Fair," "Robert Elsmere" and "The Wide, Wide World."

This is a more wonderful list than the first. The most cynical satirist of New England culture could hardly invent a concatenation so incongruous. But what it illustrates most forcibly is the extent to which merely ephemeral publications have supplanted all actual literature among rural readers, as well as among those in towns. Not only does Shakespeare come after E. P. Roe and Thackeray after Mark Twain, but the Bible is a long way after "Ben-Hur," though there are still some old-fashioned people who think that St. Mark wrote a better story of the Christ than General Wallace.

No doubt if the vote had been taken a year ago "Robert Ellsmere" would have had a higher place and "Looking Backward" a lower. Next year the former will have dropped out of memory altogether and the latter, it may be hoped, will no longer be considered as literature. The average reader now must have his books red hot. Even New England Hawthorne, Lowell, Emerson and the other famous names are already forgotten and as for the older writers, the English classics, no one has time for them. And yet these people in their complacent ignorance talk to us of "education" and think that in such reading as is indicated by these lists they are improving what they are pleased to call their minds.

THE TIMES—I

LIGHT ON POPULAR TASTE.

One of the most familiar subjects of literary discussion is brought up freshly in this month's *Forum* by Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie with an array of facts and figures that gives it new dignity. The question is, what books are most popular with the American public to-day, and the answer is a list of 167 works, principally of fiction, tabulated and arranged according to reports received by an inquiring firm of publishers from "all the important libraries in the United States." Mr. Mabie does not tell us how many libraries there are or define just what he means by "important," and, although it is thought ungenerous to examine a gift horse too closely, it must be admitted that a little clearer light on these points would add to the interest of his report.

In order to know exactly what books in a given library are most popular, it is necessary to know about what books a library has. People who subscribe to a circulating library of course have their preferences, but, in the absence of what they actually want, will naturally take what they can get. This may seem to be straining a point, but it is suggested in the *Forum* article that a list of books sold by various dealers in a given period would not necessarily be a list of the books most widely read in that period, because all books bought for private libraries are not bought to be read, and it seems to us equally true that a list of the books taken out of a circulating library in a given period is not necessarily a list of the books most highly esteemed by its subscribers. This does not apply to such institutions as the Boston Public Library or the Mercantile Library in this city, in which the collections are enormous and of great variety, and if the phrase "all the important libraries in the United States" describes only these and similar institutions, Mr. Mabie's list of 167 most popular books and fifty-odd most popular authors is, indeed, as nearly conclusive as possible. The 167 books, however, are volumes that would surely be in any town circulating library of any sort of pretensions.

But, quite apart from these considerations, Mr. Mabie's lists are interesting, and may be taken as straws that show which way the wind blows, if not as an actual revelation of the present literary culture of the American public. It is no surprise to find "David Copperfield" at the head of the list. This novel was found in 92 per cent. of the individual lists of "the 150 most popular novels." "Ivanhoe," which has always been the best liked of Scott's novels by all but a few, is second; and it is most gratifying to find "The Scarlet Letter" in the next place, even if "Uncle Tom's Cabin" does closely follow it, with "Ben-Hur" as number five.

Twenty-four Pages

Thackeray has the sixth place with "Vanity Fair," and is not encountered again until long after Mr. Roe and Miss Olcott, Edna Lyall—whose popularity in England amazes Edmund Gosse—and the eminent Bellamy, with many others of the past and present, have been represented by one or more books. "The Newcomes" is the second work of Thackeray in popularity, and it is no surprise to find it less read than "Adam Bede," "Jane Eyre," "John Halifax," "Romola," or even [illegible] Mr. Roe's novels, but it is astonishing to find a [illegible] of popularity claimed for Dr. Holmes's "Elsie Venner," a work people rarely talk of nowadays, and Miss Porter's "Scottish Chiefs," which might well be thought out of date. Compared with this work of Thackeray, Mr. J. M. Barrie is his equal in popularity. His "Little Minister" divides the honors with George Eliot's "Middlemarch," Crawford's "Mr. Isaacs," and "The Old Mam'selle's Secret." No other work of Mr. Barrie is mentioned, however, and in the list of fifty authors his name is No. 41.

In this list Dickens is first and Oliver Goldsmith fiftieth. Louisa Alcott is second and Mr. Roe is fourth, standing between Scott and Cooper, while George Eliot, Hawthorne, Holmes, Bulwer, and Thackeray complete the first ten. Lew Wallace is the twenty-first, standing just after Wilkie Collins and before Miss Yonge, whose religious stories, we are convinced, are read or taken out of the libraries frequently merely as an alternative. There used to be a popular craze for them, and large supplies were laid in by librarians. Before accepting this list as conclusive it would be necessary to know how large a proportion of the books taken out of libraries are actually read with interest, and to learn this is manifestly impossible.

Mr. Howells is the twenty-sixth, standing between Hugo and Kingsley; at least one of Jane Austen's novels is still widely read, and the shallow tales of Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth are still more popular than the splendid romances of George Ebers, while Marion Harland precedes Miss Muloch, and Blackmore is "placed" only on account of one of his books, "Lorna Doone," while the able, occult Meredith is not in the race. The Duchess is more widely read than Thomas Hardy, held by many to be the first of living English novelists, and Mr. Stevenson just escapes the last place because his "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" has more readers than "The Vicar of Wakefield." It has been decided, we believe, that Mr. Stevenson is not a "woman's writer." That fact has been divulged in recent discussions of his latest and one of his best works, "David Balfour," in certain literary clubs composed of ladies, and Mr. Mabie accounts for the absence of young Mr. Kipling's name for the same reason.

That reason, the large preponderance of women among present-day readers of fiction, probably explains also the neglect of the greatest English novelist, Henry Fielding; but it does not explain why the charm of Mr. Cable and the humor of Mr. Hopkinson Smith, the womanly tenderness and keen observation of Miss Jewett, Miss Murfree, and Miss Wilkins are not as potent as the qualities of many other writers who stand high in the list. Mr. Stockton, Mark Twain, and Mrs. Burnett, for instance, are all among the first in the list of authors, and Mr. Mabie's explanation that wide publication of stories in magazines may be a cause of comparatively small circulation of the same works in book form applies as surely to these three as to the others. Here is another indication that the lists are not to be accepted as absolute proof, but he has made a very good case out of the evidence at hand.

HE RETURN OF CRISPI.

most obvi

N. Y. Sunday Times 1894

PLAYGROUND WORKERS PLAN FOR SEASON

The Children's Playground Association yesterday renamed itself "The Playground Association," omitting "Children" to add dignity. They met in the office of Superintendent of Schools Brumbaugh, made some other changes in constitution, and elected Dr. Brumbaugh president; Rev. P. R. McDevitt vice president, and as honorary vice presidents, Mayor Reyburn, Dr. E. J. Houston, Thomas Dolan, Charles C. Harrison and Rabbi Henry Berkowitz; treasurer, John H. Converse; Finance Committee, S. S. Fels, Martin Maloney, Jones Wister and Charles Harding.

The hopes discussed were for the Vares to make the square at Fourth and Ritner a playground memorial to Senator Vare; that the Ridgway Library grounds would be opened; that part of Franklin Square be dedicated to women and children; that

---

The Collector's Reward

The collector who presents his treasures to the nation gets a double pleasure from his activity. Some collectors argue that a collection should eventually be sold, so that others may enjoy the pleasure they themselves realized in making it. But the man who has already experienced the thrill of the chase knows that, by handing over the treasures captured to the public, he will have the further joy of sending his name down to posterity to be associated with them for many years, and that these things, to him so well worth preserving, will run a better chance of survival than if they were returned to the saleroom. He is, however, none the less generous because indirectly he profits by his own generosity.

Two gifts of this kind have lately been announced. The group of Wertheimer portraits by Sargent have now gone to the National Gallery, London, with the result that Wertheimer will be remembered, as otherwise he would not have been, by generations yet to come. He was a dealer of note in London, well known in his day. Being a dealer alone, however, will not make a man's name live, but here was one whose interest in art led him to encourage his contemporaries, without falling into the English art patron's fashion at the time of investing in the big "machines" of the year. He had himself, his wife, his son, his daughters painted by Sargent. Nobody can forget these portraits who saw them when exhibited at the Royal Academy, or can fail to recall how, at their side, the usual academic portrait faded into dullness. Now the question is, how they will look hanging at the side of the Hogarths and Gainsboroughs and Reynoldses, the Lawrences, and Raeburns. Whatever posterity decides, Wertheimer cannot be forgotten until perchance Macaulay's New Zealander philosophizes on the wreck of London Bridge.

Dr. Barnes of Philadelphia found his interest in patronizing artists whose reputation—if not notoriety—has today far outstripped the indifference that was first their portion. He appreciated Degas and Van Gogh. He collected Cézanne and Renoir, and probably in no other collection is either painter so plentifully represented. He brought the series down to the present with Matisse and Picasso. Also, he believed in a few Americans—Davies, Lawson, Glackens among them. Now he not only makes a gift of the collection to the public, but he is building a gallery to hold it. The site he has chosen is the Merion, just outside Philadelphia.

It is something of an experiment to place a gallery in the suburbs of any town, more especially of Philadelphia, where even so fine a library as the Ridgway is hardly visited because, though within the town limits, it is in a district Philadelphia considers out of the correct way. It is an experiment also to devote a gallery almost entirely to men whose claim to lasting fame is not yet fully established. But Dr. Barnes believes in them and he has seen to it that future students and artists will have an admirable chance to study their work before venturing upon a final decision. As Wertheimer's name will be coupled with Sargent's in the National Gallery, so at the Merion will Dr. Barnes' name be coupled with the names of those artists whose pictures it has been his chief pleasure to buy.

Christian Science Monitor

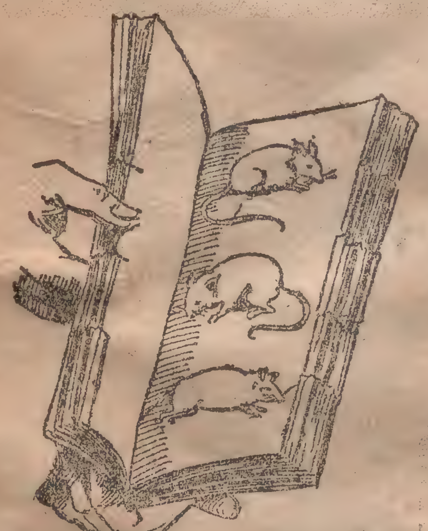
Jan. 22. 1923

QUAINT VOLUMES.

Product of an Ingenious Eighteenth Century Publisher.

In several of the museums of Europe are re and treasured copies of a quaint vol-me issued in the eighteenth century. Its ages are covered with colored engravings, nd these are distributed in such a manner that in placing the thumb at various heights along the edge of the book, a series of the same figures passes before the eye, making it appear as if the whole book was filled with one kind of images. In turning the leaves with the thumb held against the lower end of the book nothing but blank pages appear. A little higher up ladies in elegant costumes follow each other, and still a little higher up cats and mice parade in plain view. In turning the book in the other direction and commencing the same operation over again, there is a series of four or more pictures to be found.

The whole is the result of a clever combination of stitching the leaves together, easily enough understood. The book consists of 48 leaves. The blank pages are arranged from eight to eight, and the same rule holds good for the dames in grand toilet, while the other pictures are similarly disposed of in the other direction. The edges of the pages are cut in such a manner that the thumb clears all the leaves except those that are wanted for the corresponding series.



The rat pages.

This book originated during the reign of Louis XVI., and was regarded with great favor by the lovers of the mysterious. —*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

Librarian
Gaius Julius Hyginus
made by Augustus Keeper of
the Palatine Libry
Mackail p. 164

MUDIE AND HIS LIBRARY

PECULIAR PLACE IT HAS IN THE LONDON BOOK WORLD.

ITS RISE FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS—METHODS BY WHICH IT IS CONDUCTED—CHARACTER OF MR. MUDIE AND HIS PLACE IN THE PRESENT ERA.

In an age when half the world is engaged in writing books for the other half to read, the death of the largest literary merchant of his generation deserves more than passing notice in the opinion of the London *Standard*, which proceeds to say: "Mr. C. E. Mudie, the founder of the famous Circulating Library, whose death we record in another column, was neither a publisher nor an author; but he has his place, and it is an important one, in the history of Victorian literature. To have developed, if he did not invent, the system under which tens of thousands of middle-class English people are regularly supplied with the only reading they get, outside the newspapers, was the work of a remarkable mind. Mr. Mudie was a good example of the type of Englishman or Scotchman which was, perhaps, more common fifty years ago than it is now. Like William and Robert Chambers and John Cassell, and other popularizers of literature, he was to a great extent 'self-made.'

"He was in a small way of business at first; but he soon extended his connection. He took to lending out books, as well as selling them, and after a little struggle established himself on a secure footing. He used to pick up popular novels cheap—buying them at a considerable discount from newspapers who had had the copies sent them for review—and replenishing his stock in other economical ways; and he soon became so well known as a lender of books that he was able to remove from Southampton Row and to set up the establishment in New Oxford Street which has ever since remained the headquarters of his famous library. Close attention to detail, an instinctive knack of gauging the popular taste, and a talent for organization insured the success of the concern. 'Mudie's' is and remains an 'institution'—one so peculiar to the soil of Britain, and still apparently so well adapted to it, that it is difficult to understand how people managed to get on without it. It has had its imitators, of course, and even its rivals; but they have done nothing to impair the supremacy of the original establishment. Every one knows what a colossal affair it has become. It has its branches all over the kingdom, and its service of dispatching, receiving, and registering is almost as elaborate as that of the Post Office or the Clearing House. Its subscribers are numbered by thousands, and it is, as is well known, the great receptacle or reservoir in which the lighter literature of the day is stored, so to speak, till its floods are gradually drained off and imbibed by the thirsty.

"Novels are published in the first instance for 'Mudie's,' and the one or two other large providers who have followed in his traces. In the days when there were half a dozen great English novelists for whose works everybody was waiting with feverish eagerness, the number of copies taken by Mr. Mudie's firm was almost fabulous. Of Lord Beaconsfield's 'Endymion,' he is said to have ordered two thousand; of 'Daniel Deronda' an equal number, and several of Trollope's, Lytton's, and Charles Reade's passed the thousand. How many hands these volumes went through before they were finally discarded from the Oxford Street shelves it would be rash to conjecture. But obviously the person who could construct this gigantic machine and keep it working, amid all the changes and chances of the literary market, with so little friction and so much profit, was no ordinary man.

"Mr. Mudie possessed high practical talents and general abilities, which were usefully as well as profitably employed. For 'Mudie's,' whatever may be said against it, has, on the whole, done good work. Like everything that really succeeds, it came at the right time, and it supplied a real need. It synchronized with the transitional period of literature, when the taste for letters was ceasing to be aristocratic, and had not yet become democratic. In the forties, the fifties, and the sixties, it did not pay—or so the publishers thought—to bring out new books at a low price. The vast public, which makes it possible and lucrative to publish new works at 5s. or a half crown or even less, was not yet tapped. On the other hand, the great middle class was more anxious to read than ever, and more keenly interested in the latest works of the latest writers. But it could not afford to pay 25s. for a novel or £2 for a biography.

"Here Mr. Mudie stepped in. He was a middleman in the best sense of that equivocal term. He came between the author who could not afford to sell and the reader who could not afford to buy. His guinea a year subscription came as a revelation to people who had been accustomed to pay that amount for a single new book. Thanks to him, the reader of quite humble means, if he were only diligent enough, could keep pace with all the current literature of the period. He could finish his three-volume novel twice a week and send for a fresh work on biography and history every other day if he chose. Mr. Mudie is sometimes charged with stimulating an artificial demand for the modern novel—the blameless British novel, which you get at seaside towns and find in convalescent homes. The reproach is unjust. Mr. Mudie did not create the public taste, though he was, to a certain extent, bound to follow it. You can get Thackeray and Dickens, and Mr. George Meredith and Mr. Blackmore, as, for the matter of that, you can also get the works of M. Daudet and Balzac and Dumas, if you like to ask for them, at the libraries. If you prefer the three-volume twaddle which so many ladies will write and so many others read, it is certainly not the fault of the librarian.

"Nor have Messrs. Mudie confined themselves, as some people seem to imagine, to fiction. On the contrary, we doubt whether their most useful permanent service has been performed in connection with novels at all. They give a new writer his chance, and they permit the public to make trial before purchase of an established favorite. But, if a novel is worth anything, it comes out eventually in a cheap form, and then, if we have read it, or our friends have read it, through the agency of the library, and have thought well of it, we buy it and put it on our shelves. But there are works of the more solid kind, with a necessarily limited circulation, which to most of us would not become accessible at all except it were through some such agency; and there are others, again, which we all want to read—especially when they are new—but which very few of us would care to buy.

"That there are drawbacks to the system must be admitted. We have heard a good deal of late years of Mr. Mudie's 'censorship' of the press; nor is all that has been said on that head quite unjustifiable. No doubt, Mr. Mudie did not err on the side of a large liberality of literary judgment. He was somewhat predisposed to take the narrow, puritanical view of things to which so many of his early subscribers inclined—the view of Salem Chapel and Little Bethel and the Mutual Improvement Society. He treated the young person with a ceremonious respect, and was tender to the feelings of the British matron; and he looked askance at writers who dealt with subjects not meet to be discussed at the tea table.

"On the other hand, it has been hinted that he has at times taken some pains to 'push' books which might have served as very good sermons, though they were very bad novels. But too much need not be made of this. One or two works of talent Mr. Mudie may possibly have discouraged at the start, but, after all, as he said himself, he was bound to regard books from the commercial standpoint, and if the public really took to a particular author, they could generally find him at the libraries. Those who have complained loudest of the self-constituted censorship have been second-rate writers, whose doubtful morality was not atoned for by any conspicuous excellence in art. And, in any case, if Mr. Mudie sometimes erred, he erred in the cause of virtue, and with the same sort of rigorous sense of duty that distinguished the whole of his honorable and upright career. We are not at all sure that there would not be room for a few similar mistakes still from time to time. It is said that the library system is 'doomed.' We do not see much sign of it, but it is obvious that the diminished cost in the production of books and the enormous increase in the reading public have given a great impetus in recent years to the sale of cheap trash.

"Books are produced in vast quantities where a few years ago they would only have been published, in the first instance, at any rate, for the circulating library. The change has its advantages, no doubt; but we should welcome it none the less heartily if we saw a little more of the spirit of Mr. Mudie among those who purvey these literary wares. A censorship may be a bad thing, but a sense of responsibility is not, and we should like publishers and editors to feel, as the old librarian certainly did, that it is a better thing to put good books into the hands of the multitude than bad ones. If that sentiment were more common, we should not see the market flooded with the degrading and corrupting rubbish of all kinds that is now poured into it. No man believed in the commercial element in [illegible]ture more strongly than Mr. Mudie, but h[illegible] carry it to the point of believing that [illegible] matter in the least what works you [illegible]ribute so long as, by energetic adver[illegible]nd persistent touting, you can get it."

HE LIBRARY OF NAPOLEON III.

T WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE, BUT FAKIRS ARE STILL SELLING THE BOOKS.

Now the book hunters return from those fabulous voyages to London, Munich, Paris, and Rome, bringing invaluable books that pay their expenses and a great profit besides. They have manuscripts, books printed in the fifteenth century, ancient woodcuts, masterpieces of bookbinding, and books from famous libraries. They make one jealous with their treasures. But they have too many books from the library and marked with the arms of Napoleon III. Such books have no existence in fact.

Napoleon III. had formed a library of 30,000 to 40,000 volumes, all—with the single exception of a manuscript of Juvénal des Ursins, presented to him by the Didot family, the value of which was about 20,000f.—perfectly worthless. The entire collection was destroyed in the fire of the Tuileries in 1871.

There is a clipping from a Paris journal of last September used, nevertheless, to sustain the authenticity of books bound with the arms of Napoleon III. It reports, as a sale of books of the Tuileries, the sale which occurred at the Salle Silvestre on the 25th and 26th of August. And that was a sale of books, belonging to a certain M. S——, according to the catalogue, marked with the monogram of Jerome, King of Westphalia. He bequeathed them to his son, Prince Napoleon, who lived in the Palais Royal when the Commune set fire to the building in 1848. The books were thrown out of the windows by Motteley and some other bibliomaniacs into the Cour d'Honneur, and there they were drenched. A few, which were found worthy of preservation, were returned to Prince Napoleon. The rest were sold for old paper. All were stamped on the fly leaf with the inscription: "Bibliothéque du Citoyen Napoléon Bonaparte." Lehec, a bookseller, obtained the neglected books. Prince Napoleon carried the others with him to the Tuileries. It was the neglected books that M. S—— (M. Edmond Dubois?) sold at the Salle Silvestre last August.

Paris is full of fakirs who buy them on the quays for 25c. to 50c. and rebind them in the covers marked with the imperial arms, bees, eagle, and crowned N, which were used at the Opéra Comique for the librettos on nights when the Emperor attended. There are no books from the library of Napoleon III. It has been said before in these columns, but it is evident that it cannot be said too often.

In reality, Paris is a better market for an American to sell than to buy valuable books. Hamilton Cole had not paid more for the four books of the "État de la Marine," bound by Padeloup, than the price which they fetched at the sale of his library last April. The purchaser who got them there for $40 sold them to Greppe, the bibliopole of the Rue de Chateaudun last month, for $400. It will be surprising if they do not return here next season in the hands of an American book hunter who will have found them in Paris cheap at a price large enough to give Greppe an extraordinary profit.

SC[illegible] OF LEPERS.

[illegible]tion and expo[illegible]ure. [illegible] morning of dis-

---

brick.'
d Dis-
he fight
y, but
found
d him
to re-
e were
own's
Van-
Thir-

MR. GLADSTONE AS A BOOK-BUYER.

[*From the Pall Mall Gazette.*]

What Oliver Wendell Holmes describes as "book-hunger" seems with Mr. Gladstone to increase with years. Catalogues conscientiously perused and duly marked by him are quite a frequent feature in booksellers' windows. One of the most interesting examples, as it is also the latest, is now exposed with the check in the window of Mr. Menkin, in Gray's-Inn-road. Nearly forty books were ordered, subject to the discount of 10 per cent. for cash, upon which the G. O. M. always insists. The most remarkable thing that strikes one in glancing through these catalogues is the extraordinary variety of Mr. Gladstone's reading.

His first book, for example, is an odd volume, "A Sketch of the Pre-Shakesperean Drama," by F. Ireton; then come three works on anthropology, one of which is Carus Sterne's "Werden and Vergehen," in the original German. As a set-off to Taylor's origin, etc., of "The Fine Arts in Great Britain and Ireland," Mr. Gladstone orders Sternberg's translation of Dr. Magnin's "Bacteria." Bibliography appears also to be a favorite subject with Mr. Gladstone, for he orders Dobson's "History of the Bassandyne Bible" and the "Archiv fur Gesehicte des deutschen Buchhandels." It would be highly interesting to know what Mr. G. wants with Cobbett's "Advice to Young Men and Young Women." The "drink question" and "epitaphs" are truly strange companions, but the ex-Premier orders two upon each topic, one being by W. Andrews. Heredity, Mormonism and Popery, not to mention two books by Priestly, are duly marked off.

But it is Shakespeariana that Mr. Gladstone orders wholesale. Sixteen French and six German translations from, or criticisms on, Shakespeare form a portion of the order, so that our readers need not be at all surprised to learn that Mr. Gladstone will edit a variorum edition of the great dramitist or some such stupendous undertaking! Truly an Inexhaustible Old Man!

PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT[illegible]

—A copy of the first edition of the Bible as translated by Miles Coverdale, (1535,) was sold in London three weeks ago for $600. At that it was a "grubby" copy, and the map, title page, and first few leaves were in fac simile. Perfect copies are unknown.

—Lord Salisbury's house at Hatfield is

—The Faculty of Letters of Lyons propose to issue a photo-lithographic reproduction of the celebrated manuscript known under the name of "Bible Vaudoise." The manuscript is one of the treasures of the library of the Palais des Arts of that city. It contains the greater part of the New Testament, and has at the end a Vaudois or Cathar ritual, a very interesting document, showing the attempt at religious reform in the Middle Ages. The manuscript consists of 500 pages, and from its peculiar literary construction is most interesting to palæographers and students of Romance philology.

Rare Books to be Sold.—At an auction sale, which is to take place at Cologne, near the end of this month, a number of treasures in the way of rare books and MSS. will be disposed of. Among these are: The first printed letter of Columbus on the discovery of America from the press of Stephan Planck at Rome, according to Brunet, as distinct from a reprint of the same year, 1493; a Latin-German Vocabulary, printed in 1469, with Guttenberg's types; P. Schoeffer's Liber VI decretalium on vellum, 1473; a Carthusian Missal, 1490; and a very rare xylographic print of Historia Beatæ Mariæ Virginis. Less rare xylographic prints, such as Historia S. Johannis and the Ars Moviendi fetched 14,500 francs and 18,000 francs, respectively, at the Didos sale in 1879.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The Brinley Library Sale.—The sale of the fourth part of the famous Brinley Library will take place on November 13 at Leavitt's, and promises to be as important as the preceding ones. The long delay of over five years between the third and fourth sales has been due to the fact that the cataloguer, Dr. John Hammond Trumbull, President of the Connecticut Historical Society, has been devoting his time recently to writing a history of Connecticut.

George Brinley was a devoted, indefatigable, discriminating and ingenious collector. He was a manufacturer in Hartford, and began the work which has rendered him famous by collecting books and manuscripts having reference to the early history of this country. Once started as a collector, his industry and the originality of his methods soon became remarkable. One of his devices was to get out the "dummy" of an agricultural paper and with it to go travelling about among the rural people of New England, professedly soliciting subscriptions for the newspaper and taking advice about it. That afforded him a good excuse for getting into familiar conversation with members of families that he had reason to believe had in their possession the treasures that he sought. In this way he unearthed and bought, often for no more than their value as waste paper, the rarest and most valuable books and manuscripts. Among them he captured in this way a copy, in a good state of preservation, of Eliot's Indian Bible, the value of which is naturally enhanced by the fact that there are only two perfect copies of it in this country, Mr. Brinley's being one of them.

The sale of the first part of Mr. Brinley's library on March 10, 1879, brought $48,723 90; that of the second, on March 22, 1880, $32,690 24, and the third, on April 4, 1881, $23,716 33, a total of $105,130 47. The fourth part, now to be sold, is pronounced by bibliographers to be equal to either of those that have preceded it, and it is said to contain a particularly fine collection of books of the early history of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America. Among the other varieties to be found in the catalogue are a copy of the first edition of Mrs. Anne Bradstreet's "Tenth Muse," etc., printed in London in 1650; the first New York almanac, for 1697; Franklin & Hall's Laws of Delaware of 1752; Benjamin Franklin's print of Abel Morgan's "Anti-Pædo-Rantism," 1747; a comprehensive collection of Cotton and Increase Mather's works, including *The Boston Ephemeris* for 1683, by the latter; John Allin's "Animadversions on the Anti-Squodalia," 1664, printed from the same types as Eliot's Indian Bible.

In the third part of the sale a copy of the Gutenberg Bible, the first book printed with types, was sold for $8000, which was the highest price ever paid for a printed book in this country. A copy of Captain John Smith's "General Historie of Virginia, New England and the Summer Isles," 1624, sold in the first part of the sale for $1800. A beautiful and perfect copy of the Bay Psalm Book, 1640, brought $1200. Eliot's Indian Bible brought $1000, and there were great numbers of books that sold individually for from $500 to $1000 each.—*New York Tribune.*

THE CURIOUS BIBLES.—We have the Breeches Bible, which is indebted for its strange sobriquet to the translation "Adam and Eve made themselves breeches," &c. For this edition, which first appeared 1560 in quarto form, we are indebted to the English reformers exiled at Geneva; during the reign of Elizabeth it served as the regular family Bible, its popularity being mainly due to the Calvinistic comments which appeared freely on the margin. Then we have an edition, printed in 1717 at the Clarendon Press, known as the Vinegar Bible, because the parable of the Vineyard in the title to the twentieth chapter of St. Luke is printed "parable of the Vinegar." Matthew's Bible, printed in London in 1551, was nicknamed the Bug Bible, from the fifth verse of the ninety-first [illegible] being translated "so that thou shalt not nede to be afraid for any Bugges by nighte." The original idea of the word—terror—is still to be traced in bugbear, bugaboo. The Wicked Bible was printed in London in 1631, and was so called from the fact that the negation was omitted in certain of the commandments, the result being that the edition was suppressed and the printer fined £300 by Archbishop Land, the money being, it is said, devoted to the purhase of a supply of Greek type for the use of the University of Oxford. The Whig or Placemaker's Bible obtained its name from an error occurring in St. Matthew, v. 9, where "Blessed are the placemakers" is substituted for "peacemakers." The Treacle Bible has the passage in Jeremiah, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" rendered, "Is there no treacle in Gilead?" and the Douay (R.C.) version has been described as the Rosin Bible, because the same passage has the word rosin instead of treacle. Many years ago there existed in the Stowe library, the Book of Gospels, on which the English Kings, down to Edward the Sixth, took the coronation oath, with a huge brazen crucifix, which the monarchs kissed on its cover. The binding was of ponderous oak boards an inch or so in thickness, fastened by huge leather thongs. The Printers' Bible makes David pathetically complain that printers in place of princes have "persecuted him without a cause."—*Murray's Magazine.*

Anecdote about a Caxton, See—
American Sentinel Sept 4, 1837.

Smallest book – See Le Livre April 1886 p 218

Walton's Angler.

Two copies of the original edition of Walton's "Angler" (1653) have just been sold, the one realizing £180 and the other £72. The former (bought for an American collection) was perfect, and was nicely bound in old Russia leather; but the latter (purchased by Mr. Quatrich) was by no means in such good condition, and one leaf was defective. At the sale of the library of the late Mr. Gibson-Craig a copy of this very rare edition fetched £195.

—A literary curiosity is being issued by a bookseller named Roux, at Lyons. The volume (to be complete in 25 parts, of which 15 have already appeared, at the price of $2 a number) is entirely of silk, into which the text is woven. Each number consists of only two leaves; so that the whole volume, containing the Roman Catholic Mass and a number of prayers, will have only fifty leaves. Round the Gothic text on each leaf will be a spcially designed mediæval border. Both text and border are woven in black silk on a white surface. Single numbers are not to be obtained.

---

he men
nd thus gua

EARLY BIBLES.

[*Clement Ferguson in the Newport (R. I.) News.*]

The earliest publication on this continent of any portion of the Scriptures was the translation of the New Testament into the Natick dialect, the ordinary speech of the Indians at the time the Pilgrim Fathers landed in 1620. This translation was made by John Eliot, a native of England, and a graduate of the University of Cambridge. Coming to Boston in 1631 and accepting as his special mission the conversion of Indians (whom he considered to be the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel) he acquired at the same time a thorough knowledge of their language, and determined to let them have the "Word of God" in their own tribal tongue. The work of translation, with the aid of an Indian, was the labor of eight years, and it is now conceded to be one of the most notable contributions to philology made in this country. The New Testament was first completed and printed at Cambridge, Mass., in 1661; the Old Testament followed in 1663. Both are now very rare; bound together a copy has sold for $1250; the New Testament for $700. A second edition of the New Testament was printed in 1680; this bound up with the Old Testament, issued in 1685, constitutes the second and last edition of the Indian Bible.

A copy, formerly in the library of the Marquis of Hastings, sold for £200. John Eliot, "The Apostle to the Indians," a designation so appropriate that it has secured universal acceptance, died in 1690, in his 86th year. His fame rests upon his labors in Christianizing the Indians, but the translation of the Bible is his imperishable monument. To meet the demands of emigrants who had largely settled in Pennsylvania the first edition of the Holy Scriptures in the German language, and the first in a European tongue, was printed by Christophe Saur, at Germantown, in 1743. Copied from Martin Luther's version it formed a ponderous quarto volume of 1284 pages. The price was 18 shillings, bound in leather, with brass clasps. However, to enable his needy countrymen to acquire copies at a reduced rate, one H. E. Luther, a wealthy type founder of Frankfort, had sent as a gift the fonts of type in German text from which this edition was printed. At the Brinley sale, a few years since, a copy was sold for $350. It is a notable fact that neither the Old nor the New Testament was ever printed here in the English language till after this country had declared independence. So oppressive was the monopoly that the British Government maintained over the exclusive printing of the Bible that it never transferred its authority to reprint it, even in her own colonies; and every copy had to be imported across the Atlantic. However, the critical condition of the country did not fail to stimulate local publishers to exertion, as Robert Aitkin, a native of Scotland, who had settled as a printer in Philadelphia, issued in 1777 an edition of the New Testament, the first in the English language with an American imprint. For this breach of privilege, and his attachment to the cause of American independence, Aitken was forthwith imprisoned.

After his release this zealous Scotchman announced to the members of Congress, then in session, his intention to print an edition of "The Entire Bible," and asked for their imprimature, which was readily granted, together with the certificates of the chaplains, the venerable William White, the future Episcopal Bishop, and Rev. Dr. Duffield. Here the action of Congress properly terminated, and the circulation of the Bible was, ever after, left to the people and to their pastors.

Aitken's promised edition, copied from that pearl of great price, the authorized English version, appeared in 1782, printed in brevier type, without pagination and in two duodecimo volumes, having on the title page the significant motto of "Virtue, Liberty and Independence." This will always be prized as the first Bible in the English language ever printed in America. In 179 a neat edition of the New Testament was printed at New York by Hugh Gaine, and another in New Haven by A. Morse, the latter replete with errors on every page.

In 1791 the first folio edition of a Bible, with fifty copper plates, was printed at Worcester, Mass., by Isaiah Thomas, known in his day as the Baskerville of America, the text revised by Dr. Bancroft, father of the historian and biographer of Washington. In the same year an edition of the Sacred Scriptures was carefully and correctly printed for the use of Quakers by one of the Friends at Trenton, in New Jersey. In 1794 the New Testament, without the Old, was issued at Boston, and in 1798 the first hot-pressed edition of a Bible appeared in handsome form at Philadelphia.

In colonial days, under British rule, rigid penal laws were enacted and enforced against the printing and vending of Roman Catholic works; even their devotional books appeared by stealth. However, one of the earliest results of the Revolution was the freedom of the printing press. The Douai and Rheims version of the Bible was printed at Philadelphia in 1790 by Mathew Carey, "an exile from Erin," the only Roman Catholic publisher then in the United States. Well printed from the Clemantine text, it is sold for $6. Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, headed the subscription list, followed by the names of not a few of the most distinguished men in the South.

BOOKS THA HAVE BEEN BURNED.

[*From the Gentlemen's Magazine.*]

The history of our country since the days of printing is easily reflected in its burned literature, and so little has the public fire been any respecter of class or dignity, that no branch of intellectual activity has failed to contribute some author whose work or works have been consigned to the flames. Our greatest poets, philosophers, bishops, lawyers, novelists, heads of colleges, are all represented in my collection, forming, indeed, a motley but not insipid society, wherein the gravest questions of government and the deepest problems of speculation are handled with freedom, and the men who were the most divided in their lives meet at last in a common bond of harmony. Cowell, the friend of prerogative, finds himself here side by side with Milton, the Republican, and Sacheverell, the High Churchman, in close company with Tyndale and Defoe. For nearly 300 years the rude censorship of fire was applied to literature in England, beginning naturally in that fierce religious war we call the Reformation, which practically constitutes the history of England for some two centuries. The first grand occasion of book-burning was in response to the Pope's sentence against Martin Luther, when Wolsey went in state to St. Paul's, and many of Luther'

publications were burned in the churc
yard during a sermon against them
Fisher, Bishop of Rochester (1521). But
first printed work by an Englishman
was so treated was actually the gospel.
story is too familiar to repeat, of th
occasions on which Tyndale's New
ment in English was burned before
Paul's; but in pausing to reflect t
book which met with this fiery fa
whose author ultimately met with t
is now sold in England by the mi
our received version is substantia
dale's), one can only stand agha
irony of the fearful contrast which
separated the laborer from his triu
perhaps we can scarcely wonder th
cestors, after centuries of mental b
should have tried to burn the light
unable to bear, causing it therel
shine the brighter. It certainly s
remarkable celerity, for in 1546
necessary to command all pers
ing them to deliver to the Bisho
to be openly burned, all work
purporting to be written by Frit
Wickliff, Joye, Basil, Bale, Bai
dale, Turner or Tracy. The ext
and costliness of the works inte
measure of the completeness w
this order was carried out, but
success, for the ideas survived
which contained them. A list of
is given in Foxe (v. 566) and comp
Coverdale, 28 by Bale, 13 by
Becon), 10 by Frith, 9 by Tyndale, 7
6 by Turner, 3 by Barnes. Some
may still be read, but more are non-ex
A complete account of them and the
thors would almost amount to a histo
the Reformation itself; and, as they
burned indiscriminately as heretical books,
they have not the same interest that attaches to books specifically condemned as heretical or seditious. Some of them, however, as a book lover can light upon—and pay for—are, of course, treasures of the highest order.

lowanc
"HEB
gentlem
Washir
he had
boy, as
has th
tlemai

villa is
in every

OLD PAMPHLETS.

Not long ago the librarian of Harvard College saw a man stuffing some bags with old pamphlets and papers in a Boston auction-room, when, to his surprise and delight, he espied among them a pamphlet for which he had been looking for eleven years, in order to complete the volume of a valuable periodical. The purchaser of the old wares relinquished it willingly, and the librarian bore it away in triumph. The same librarian says that he has known a journey to be made from New York to Cambridge in a storm, just to consult an old funeral sermon, the only copy in the country. It was wanted in a law case, in which a half million dollars were involved.

PRICES PAID FOR BOOKS.

First Editions of Popular Authors Becoming Scarce—Big Figures Asked.

From Murray's Magazine.

Books which have belonged to those who from various causes have become famous are often eagerly inquired after; thus the "Rabelais" of Madame de Pompadour, in morocco, was some years ago bought for $300, two works—strange to say both on divinity—formerly in the collection of Diana of Poictiers, produced $400 and $425, and the vellum library of Davoust, who by cool courage raised himself from the ranks to be Prince of Eckmuhl, was sold in London for about $7,000. A second folio of Shakespeare, now in the royal collection at Windsor, belonged to Charles the First, who wrote therein with his own hand the words "Dum spiro spero, C. R.," and Sir Henry Herbert, to whom his Majesty presented the copy on the night before his execution, also wrote, "ex dono serenissimi regis Car. Servo suo Humiliss.—T. Herbert." This book was bought by George III. for $100, and a mistake which had been made by a former owner in describing Sir T. Herbert as Master of the Revels to King Charles I., whereas it was Sir H. Herbert who held that office, having been amended by King George in his own handwriting, the copy happens to contain the autographs of two English monarchs in addition to that of "rare Ben Jonson."

This is, indeed, the identical copy thus referred to by Milton in his "Iconoclastes:" "I shall not instance an abstruse writer wherein the King might be less conversant, but one whom we well know was the closest companion of his solitudes, William Shakespeare." Among the books in the possession of Marie Antoinette, the little volume of prayers, "Office de la Divine Providence," is especially valued, inasmuch as, shortly before her death, she inscribed these words on the fly leaf: "Ce 16 Octobre, a 4h. ½ du matin. Mon dieu! Ayez pitie de moi! Mes yeux n'ont plus de larmes pour vous, mes pauvres enfants. Adieu, adieu!—Marie Antoinette." But the busy scissors of some frantic lover of equality and fraternity could not resist the temptation to mar the offending little book by clipping away the arms on the corners. In the public library of Auckland, N. Z., is a check signed by the same unfortunate Queen on November 6, 1789, for 4,000 livres, which has never yet been cashed.

The rage for the possession of original editions of Dickens has led to the occasional erasure of the words "Second Edition," and it is probable that a fine set of the first editions would now be worth not less than $1,000. First editions of popular authors are daily becoming scarcer, and the prices asked are outrageous. Thus for Byron $125, Thackeray $175, Lever $240, Ainsworth $135, etc. A hundred years ago $50 was considered a fair sum to pay for a first folio Shakespeare, but at the present time $3,500 is not thought to be by any means out of the way. Large prices are also given for dapper Elzevirs which

> like fairy elves
> Show their light forms amidst the well gilt twelves;

though inferior and cut down copies may be procured for a mere song. Many have been the witicisms levied at the test by which the genuine Elzevir Cæsar, 1635, is distinguished from spurious imitations, viz., by a mere error in paging, the good copy having the number of the 149th page misprinted 153. Sometimes bargains may be made, and great finds reward the dilligent searcher after hid treasure. Thus Sterne describes exultantly the good fortune by which Mr. Shandy obtained Beuscambille's Prologue on Noses for three half crowns. "There are not three Beuscambilles in Christendom," said the stall man, "except what are chained up in the libraries of the curious. My father flung down the money as quick as lightning, took the book to his bosom, hied home from Piccadilly to Coleman street with it as he would have hied home with a treasure, without taking his hand once off it all the way." In 1857 a second folio of Shakespeare was discovered in a carpenter shop at Maidenhead, which had been bought for a few shillings at a country auction, and a copy was actually obtained by the late Mr. James Crossley some years ago from a Manchester bookseller for a shilling. A second folio sold at the Thorold or Lyston Park sale in 1881 for the comparatively large sum of $2,950. The earliest copy unearthed for the first part of "Pilgrim's Progress" was originally purchased, with a mass of rubbish, for sixpence, but in 1884 the trustees of the British Museum paid $300 for the fourth known copy of the same work. Mme. d'Arbly mentions that Queen Charlotte, speaking of a book in her library, remarked: "I picked up the book on a stall. Oh! it's amazing what good books there are on stalls! I don't pick the books up myself, but I have a servant very clever, and if they are not to be had at the booksellers they are not for me more than for another." Sir Walter Scott in the "Antiquary" relates how Snuffy Davy (Clark the bookseller in Bond street) once picked up on a stall in a Dutch town a small black letter 4to for two pence Caxton's "Game of Chesse," which he sold to a London publisher, Osborne (the same whom Dr. Johnson knocked down with a folio Greek Septuagint, which was itself in existence in a bookseller's shop at Cambridge in 1822), for $100. The book was ultimately purchased for the Windsor Library for the sum of $850.

---

dairy, 9a15c.. Eggs were a shade easier; fresh, 14a14½c.

THE FIRST AMERICAN BIBLE.

The "Aitken Bible" Not the First English Bible Printed in America.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

In an article on "Early Bibles," published in the *Public Ledger* Wednesday, August 21, will be found the following mis-statement of a well-known fact in early American typography, viz.:

"It is a notable fact that neither the Old nor the New Testament was ever printed here in the English language till after this country declared independence." The "notable fact" is that the exclusive privilege long enjoyed by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge of printing the sacred Scriptures had deterred the American printers and publishers from engaging in their publication. But about the year 1752, intermediate between the first and second issues of Sauer's "German Bible," an edition of the English Scriptures, in 4to., was secretly carried through the press in Boston. It was printed by Kneeland & Green, the former the publisher of the *New England Journal*, the fourth newspaper in the colony and the second undertaken by a printer. Green was the son and afterward the successor of Timothy Green, the second printer of Connecticut.

This first American edition of the Bible in the English language was chiefly made for Daniel Henchman, of Boston, the most enterprising bookseller in British America before the Revolution. To avoid the risk of prosecution of those in England, who printed cum privilegio, the book had the London imprint of the copy from which it was made, viz.: "London: Printed by Mark Baskett, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty."

The edition was small, and, having a London imprint and close resemblance in typography to the English editions, the fact of its publication has been generally overlooked. But Isaiah Thomas, who was an apprentice in Boston a few years after, heard the compositors of the work speak of it, and Governor Hancock, a relative of Henchman, owned a copy of it and related the circumstances.

The Rev. Convers Francis, in his admirable "Life of John Eliot" (Boston, 1836), concludes his account of the first edition of "Eliot's Bible" (1663) with the following remarks:

"This Indian version of the Scriptures was the first Bible ever printed on the continent of America. It was not till about the middle of the next century that the Scriptures in the English language were printed in this country. This was done as privately as possible. The book bore on its title page the London imprint and the name of the King's printer. This deception was practiced to escape prosecution from those in England who had the exclusive right of publishing the Bible, either by a patent from the King, or cum privilegio, as was the case with the universities."

It is a serious bibliographical blunder to describe Eliot's "Indian Bible" as a very rare book, when nearly every public library in this country contains a copy. The eager student of Indian philology may gaze cheerfully upon six copies of this famous volume slumbering in tranquil beatitude in the show cases of the Lenox Library in New York city.

by - Philes?

THE BIBLE.

HISTORY OF ITS PUBLICATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

From Christopher Sower's First Edition to the Founding of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

At the northeast corner of Seventh and Walnut streets stands the building of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, instituted as long ago as 1808. From this institution many hundred Bibles are yearly distributed throughout the State and country. These Bibles are printed in this country, and the majority of the Bibles in use in America today in churches or in families are issued by American publishing houses. In fact the publication of the Bible in the United States has now become so common that it is taken as a matter of course. It is, therefore, somewhat difficult to appreciate the very different state of affairs which prevailed in the State of Pennsylvania during the first quarter of the last century, and, indeed, down to 1790. At that time all the Bibles used in the colonies were printed in Europe, whether Genevan, Bishop's, King James's or Douay. These Bibles were imported and sold here at a much lower figure than it was possible for our colonial printers to issue editions of a similar nature.

There was but one exception to this rule; that was the Eliot Indian Bible, the first edition of which was issued in 1663 at Cambridge, Massachusetts. This was the first Bible printed in this country, but it is well to bear in mind that the expenses of its publication were defrayed by the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Therefore, although American printed, this Bible was instituted by the people of England. If we wish to dis-

and execution of this work were marvellous when the obstacles which Sower was obliged to overcome are considered. The text was a reprint of the 34th edition of Luther's Bible. Sower's Bible, besides containing the Apocrypha, as usually printed, contained the Third and Fourth Books of Ezra and the Third Book of Maccabees, which is to be found in the 1708 edition of the Halle Bible. Sower also printed the seventh chapter of the fourth book of Ezra, which appears in very few, if any, other editions. The chapters were preceded by short summaries, and besides numerous references to parallel passages were inserted. There was a preface of one page, and Sower finished it with an addendum of four pages, giving an account of the different translations of the Bible. All told there were 1284 pages to the book. The title pages were printed in two colors, red and black. It was bound substantially in leather, with bevelled boards and clasps, and cost the subscribers about $2 50. Perfect copies nowadays readily bring from $100 upwards.

The types from which this Bible was printed were imported from Germany, and twelve copies of the book were sent to Europe by Sower. Although encouraged by some people in the publication of this Bible Sower, was opposed by many others, especially the clergy, who conceived the idea that it would be a false translation, and denounced it as such from their pulpits. To these attacks Sower made no immediate reply except to offer to the subscribers who who had become dissatisfied the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions and receiving their money in return. All this opposition was raised before the Bible had been completed and issued, and therefore before an opportunity had been given to the public to pass judgment upon its merits or demerits. When the Bible was issued his enemies discovered that the text was identical with Luther's, and there was nothing in the work to which any great exception could be taken. Indeed, its only difference from any previous edition was the additional apocryphal books. Sower, therefore, had an opportunity for revenge, but his only reply to all their calumnies was, "Instead of my Bible being false to proved them to be falsifiers." In September, 1758, Christopher Sower died, and his only son, Christopher, succeeded to his father's printing business. In 1763 he completed and issued a second edition of the Bible of 2000 copies. The type of this edition was set somewhat closer than that of the first edition and the titles also were printed entirely in black, but these were the principal and only noticeable differences between this edition and that of 1743.

The First Wholly American Bible.

In the year of 1766 Sower issued a third edition of the Bible, consisting of 3000 copies. The type for this edition was cast at his own foundry, and the ink and paper were also manufactured by him. Thus in every way this edition of the Bible was thoroughly American.

About the period that Sower placed this Bible upon the market the war of the Revolution broke out. It is not definitely known what were Sower's sentiments in regard to the struggle for independence, but he was said to be a Tory, and his son, Christopher, 3d, had made himself obnoxious in Germantown by his Tory utterances

We have now arrived at the most important period of the Bible in Pennsylvania, namely, the time when the first Bible printed in English in this country with an American imprint was issued. The circumstances leading to the publication of this book are most interesting, but especially from the fact that it was authorized by the express resolutions of Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia. Perhaps the best and most interesting way to get at the early history and cause of this publication is to make the following extract from the journal of Congress, September 11th, 1777:

"The committee to whom the memorial of Dr. Allison and others was referred report: That they have conferred fully with the printers, etc., in this city, and are of opinion that the proper types for printing the Bible are not to be had in this country, and that the paper cannot be procured, but with such difficulties and subject to such casualties as to render any dependence on it altogether improper; that to import types for the purpose of setting up an entire edition of the Bible, and to stri copies, with paper, binding

cost £10,272 10s 0d, which must be advanced by Congress, to be reimbursed by the sale of the books; that in the opinion of the committee, considerable difficulties will attend the procuring of the types and paper; that afterwards the risk of importing them will considerably enhance the cost, and that the calculations are subject to such uncertainty in the present state of affairs that Congress cannot much rely on them; that the use of the Bible is so universal and its importance so great that your committee refer the above to the consideration of Congress, and if Congress will order the Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 Bibles from Holland, Scotland or elsewhere into the different parts of the States of the Union."

Whereupon, it was moved "that the Committee of Commerce be directed to import 20,000 copies of the Bible."

Congress Approves Aitkens's Bible.

This act was carried out, but it was generally conceded that the importation was not made. It is worth noting the cause for this action of Congress. When the war of the Revolution broke out the supply of Bibles from England was cut off, while the demand for them was constantly increasing. This naturally in a short while caused a scarcity of Bibles in this country, and the subject was brought before Congress by Dr. Patrick Allison, one of the Chaplains of that body, and a memorial was also presented to Congress which urged the publication of the Bible in this country. The above extract is the reply of the committee to whom this memorial was referred. Mr. Robert Aitken, an enterprising Scotch publisher who had located in Philadelphia, upon reading this appeal immediately issued, in 1777, a copy of the New Testament, which was the first printed in this country in English with an American imprint. Aitken followed this edition up each succeeding year with another up to and including 1781. In January of 1781 he petitioned Congress that he had undertaken to print an entire edition of the Bible. In reference to this matter, in the Journal of Congress for Sep-
ber 12, 1782, we find the following: The
mittee, consisting of Mr. Duane, Mr.
ean and Mr. Witherspoon, to whom
referred a memorial of Robert Aitken,
er, dated January 21, 1781, respecting
ition of the Holy Scriptures, report:
Mr. Aitken has, at a great expense, now
ed an American edition of the Holy
tures in English; that the committee
from time to time, attended to his
ess in the work; that they also recom-
ed it to the two Chaplains of Congress
mine and give their opinion of the ex-
n, who have accordingly reported
pon.

recommendation and report being as
s:

ADELPHIA, Sept. 1, 1782.—Reverend
men: Our knowledge of your piety
blic spirit leads us without apology
ommend to your particular atten-
e edition of the Holy Scriptures pub-
by Mr. Aitken. He undertook
pensive work at the time when from
cumstances of the war, an English
of the Bible could not be im-
nor any opinion formed how long
struction might continue. On this
t, particularly, he deserves applause
couragement. We, therefore, wish
everend gentlemen, to examine the
on of the work, and if approved to
the sanction of your judgment and
ght of your recommendation. We
very great respect, your most obe-
umble servants,

JAMES DUANE, Chairman.

half of a Committee of Congress on
ken's Memorial.

end Doctor White and Reverend Mr.
, Chaplains of the United States
s assembled.

REPORT.

men:—Agreeably to your desire, we
d attention to Mr. Robert Aitken's
on of the Holy Scriptures—of the
New Testament. Having selected
nined a variety of passages through-
work, we are of opinion that it is
with great accuracy as to the
d with as few grammatical and
hical errors as could be expected in
taking of such magnitude. Being
witnesses of the demand for this
le book, we rejoice in the prospect
ly, hoping that it will prove as ad-
us as it is honorable to the gentle-
has exerted himself to furnish it
dent risk of private fortune.
, gentlemen, your very respectful
ble servants,

WILLIAM WHITE,
GEORGE DUFFIELD.

Honorable James Duane, Esquire, Chairman, and the other honorable gentlemen of the Committe of Congress on Mr. Aitken's Memorial, Philadelphia, September 10, 1782.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the United States in Congress assembled highly approved the pious and laudable undertaking of Mr. Aitken as subservient to the interest of religion, as well as an instance of the progress of arts in this country, and, being satisfied from the above reports of his care and accuracy in the execution of the work, they recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States, and hereby authorize him to publish this recommendation in the manner he shall think proper.

Aitken's Advertisement.

In less than a month after this, October 1st, 1782, the following advertisement appeared in the *Pennsylvania Packet:*

"ROBERT AITKEN,

Printer, Bookseller, Bookbinder and Stationer, at Pope's Head, in Market stree
r the Coffee House, has just finishe
ow ready for sale

Chestnut Hill.
June 19th 1900

My dear Mr Samuels

In distributing my Father's & my Grandfather's books from our late residency there are found some of considerable general interest as we would like them placed where they can be protected

BOOKS THA. HAVE BEEN BURNED.

[*From the Gentlemen's Magazine.*]

The history of our country since the days of printing is easily reflected in its burned literature, and so little has the public fire been any respecter of class or dignity, that no branch of intellectual activity has failed to contribute some author whose work or works have been consigned to the flames. Our greatest poets, philosophers, bishops, lawyers, novelists, heads of colleges, are all represented in my collection, forming, indeed, a motley but not insipid society, wherein the gravest questions of government and the deepest problems of speculation are handled with freedom, and the men who were the most divided in their lives meet at last in a common bond of harmony. Cowell, the friend of prerogative, finds himself here side by side with Milton, the Republican, and Sacheverell, the High Churchman, in close company with Tyndale and Defoe. For nearly 300 years the rude censorship of fire was applied to literature in England, beginning naturally in that fierce religious war we call the Reformation, which practically constitutes the history of England for some two centuries. The first grand occasion of book-burning was in response to the Pope's sentence against Martin Luther, when Wolsey went in state to St. Paul's, and many of Luther's publications were burned in the churc
yard during a sermon against them
Fisher, Bishop of Rochester (1521). But
first printed work by an Englishman
was so treated was actually the gospel.
story is too familiar to repeat, of th
occasions on which Tyndale's New
ment in English was burned before
Paul's; but in pausing to reflect t
book which met with this fiery fa
whose author ultimately met with th
is now sold in England by the mi
our received version is substantia
dale's), one can only stand agha
irony of the fearful contrast which
separated the laborer from his triu
perhaps we can scarcely wonder th
cestors, after centuries of mental b
should have tried to burn the light
unable to bear, causing it therel
shine the brighter. It certainly s
remarkable celerity, for in 1546
necessary to command all pers
ing them to deliver to the Bisho
to be openly burned, all work
purporting to be written by Frit
Wickliff, Joye, Basil, Bale, Bar
dale, Turner or Tracy. The ext
and costliness of the works inte
measure of the completeness w
this order was carried out, but
success, for the ideas survived
which contained them. A list of
is given in Foxe (v. 566) and comp
Coverdale, 28 by Bale, 13 by
Becon), 10 by Frith, 9 by Tyndale, 7
6 by Turner, 3 by Barnes. Some
may still be read, but more are non-ex
A complete account of them and the
thors would almost amount to a histo
the Reformation itself; and, as they w
burned indiscriminately as heretical books,
they have not the same interest that attaches to books specifically condemned as heretical or seditious. Some of them, however, as a book lover can light upon—and pay for—are, of course, treasures of the highest order.

---

lowanc
"HER
gentlem
Washir
he had
boy, as
has th
tlemai

villa is
in every

OLD PAMPHLETS.

Not long ago the librarian of Harvard College saw a man stuffing some bags with old pamphlets and papers in a Boston auction-room, when, to his surprise and delight, he espied among them a pamphlet for which he had been looking for eleven years, in order to complete the volume of a valuable periodical. The purchaser of the old wares relinquished it willingly, and the librarian bore it away in triumph. The same librarian says that he has known a journey to be made from New York to Cambridge in a storm, just to consult an old funeral sermon, the only copy in the country. It was wanted in a law case, in which a half million dollars were involved.

PRICES PAID FOR BOOKS.

First Editions of Popular Authors Becoming Scarce—Big Figures Asked.

From Murray's Magazine.

Books which have belonged to those who from various causes have become famous are often eagerly inquired after; thus the "Rabelais" of Madame de Pompadour, in morocco, was some years ago bought for $300, two works—strange to say both on divinity—formerly in the collection of Diana of Poictiers, produced $400 and $425, and the vellum library of Davoust, who by cool courage raised himself from the ranks to be Prince of Eckmuhl, was sold in London for about $7,000. A second folio of Shakespeare, now in the royal collection at Windsor, belonged to Charles the First, who wrote therein with his own hand the words "Dum spiro spero, C. R.," and Sir Henry Herbert, to whom his Majesty presented the copy on the night before his execution, also wrote, "ex dono serenissimi regis Car. Servo suo Humiliss.—T. Herbert." This book was bought by George III. for $100, and a mistake which had been made by a former owner in describing Sir T. Herbert as Master of the Revels to King Charles I., whereas it was Sir H. Herbert who held that office, having been amended by King George in his own handwriting, the copy happens to contain the autographs of two English monarchs in addition to that of "rare Ben Jonson."

This is, indeed, the identical copy thus referred to by Milton in his "Iconoclastes:" "I shall not instance an abstruse writer wherein the King might be less conversant, but one whom we well know was the closest companion of his solitudes, William Shakespeare." Among the books in the possession of Marie Antoinette, the little volume of prayers, "Office de la Divine Providence," is especially valued, inasmuch as, shortly before her death, she inscribed these words on the fly leaf: "Ce 16 Octobre, a 4h. ½ du matin. Mon dieu! Ayez pitie de moi! Mes yeux n'ont plus de larmes pour vous, mes pauvres enfants. Adieu, adieu!—Marie Antoinette." But the busy scissors of some frantic lover of equality and fraternity could not resist the temptation to mar the offending little book by clipping away the arms on the corners. In the public library of Auckland, N. Z., is a check signed by the same unfortunate Queen on November 6, 1789, for 4,000 livres, which has never yet been cashed.

The rage for the possession of original editions of Dickens has led to the occasional erasure of the words "Second Edition," and
it is probable that a fine
tions would now be wo
$1,000. First editions of
daily becoming scarce
asked are outrageous.
Thackeray $175, Lever $2
etc. A hundred years
ered a fair sum to pay fo
speare, but at the presen
thought to be by any me
Large prices are also giv
virs which

like fairy
Show their light forms
twelves;

though inferior and cut
procured for a mere song
the witicisms levied at th
genuine Elzevir Cæsar, 1
from spurious imitation
ror in paging, the goo
number of the 149th p
Sometimes bargains may
finds reward the dilligen
treasure. Thus Sterne d
the good fortune by wh
tained Beuscambille's
for three half crowns. "
Beuscambilles in Chris
stall man, "except what
the libraries of the curio
down the money as quic
the book to his bosom
Piccadilly to Coleman
would have hied hom
without taking his han
way." In 1857 a second
was discovered in a
Maidenhead, which had
few shillings at a coun
a copy was actually
late Mr. James Crossley
from a Manchester
shilling. A second
Thorold or Lyston Par
the comparatively lar
The earliest copy unearth
of "Pilgrim's Progress"
chased, with a mass
pence, but in 1884 the tru
Museum paid $300 for the
of the same work. Mme
that Queen Charlotte, sp
her library, remarked:
book on a stall. Oh! it's
books there are on st
the books up myself, b
very clever, and if they
the booksellers they ar
than for another." Sir
"Antiquary" relates
(Clark the bookseller in
picked up on a stall in a
black letter 4to for tw
"Game of Chesse," whic
don publisher, Osborne (
Johnson knocked down
Septuagint, which was i
a bookseller's shop at
for $100. The book was ul
for the Windsor Library

---

dairy, 9a15c.. Eggs were a shade easier; fresh, 14a14½c.

THE FIRST AMERICAN BIBLE.

The "Aitken Bible" Not the First English Bible Printed in America.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

In an article on "Early Bibles," published in the *Public Ledger* Wednesday, August 21, will be found the following mis-statement of a well-known fact in early American typography, viz.:

"It is a notable fact that neither the Old nor the New Testament was ever printed here in the English language till after this country declared independence." The "notable fact" is that the exclusive privilege long enjoyed by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge of printing the sacred Scriptures had deterred the American printers and publishers from engaging in their publication. But about the year 1752, intermediate between the first and second issues of Sauer's "German Bible," an edition of the English Scriptures, in 4to., was secretly carried through the press in Boston. It was printed by Kneeland & Green, the former the publisher of the *New England Journal*, the fourth newspaper in the colony and the second undertaken by a printer. Green was the son and afterward the successor of Timothy Green, the second printer of Connecticut.

This first American edition of the Bible in the English language was chiefly made for Daniel Henchman, of Boston, the most enterprising bookseller in British America before the Revolution. To avoid the risk of prosecution of those in England, who printed cum privilegio, the book had the London imprint of the copy from which it was made, viz.: "London: Printed by Mark Baskett, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty."

The edition was small, and, having a London imprint and close resemblance in typography to the English editions, the fact of its publication has been generally overlooked. But Isaiah Thomas, who was an apprentice in Boston a few years after, heard the compositors of the work speak of it, and Governor Hancock, a relative of Henchman, owned a copy of it and related the circumstances.

The Rev. Convers Francis, in his admirable "Life of John Eliot" (Boston, 1836), concludes his account of the first edition of "Eliot's Bible" (1663) with the following remarks:

"This Indian version of the Scriptures was the first Bible ever printed on the continent of America. It was not till about the middle of the next century that the Scriptures in the English language were printed in this country. This was done as privately as possible. The book bore on its title page the London imprint and the name of the King's

AY MORNING, AUGUST 11, 1890.—EIGHT PAGES.

THE BIBLE.

HISTORY OF ITS PUBLICATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

From Christopher Sower's First Edition to the Founding of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

At the northeast corner of Seventh and Walnut streets stands the building of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, instituted as long ago as 1808. From this institution many hundred Bibles are yearly distributed throughout the State and country. These Bibles are printed in this country, and the majority of the Bibles in use in America to-day in churches or in families are issued by American publishing houses. In fact the publication of the Bible in the United States has now become so common that it is taken as a matter of course. It is, therefore, somewhat difficult to appreciate the very different state of affairs which prevailed in the State of Pennsylvania during the first quarter of the last century, and, indeed, down to 1790. At that time all the Bibles used in the colonies were printed in Europe, whether Genevan, Bishop's, King James's or Douay. These Bibles were imported and sold here at a much lower figure than it was possible for our colonial printers to issue editions of a similar nature.

There was but one exception to this rule; that was the Eliot Indian Bible, the first edition of which was issued in 1663 at Cambridge, Massachusetts. This was the first Bible printed in this country, but it is well to bear in mind that the expenses of its publication were defrayed by the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Therefore, although American printed, this Bible was instituted by the people of England. If we wish to dis-

[illegible] work were marvellous when the obstacles which Sower was obliged to overcome are considered. The [illegible] a reprint of the 34th edition of Luther's Bible. Sower's Bible, besides containing the Apocrypha, as usually printed, contained the Third and Fourth Books of Ezra and the Third Book of Maccabees, which is to be found in the 1708 edition of the Halle Bible. Sower also printed the seventh chapter of the fourth book of Ezra, which appears in very few, if any, other editions. The chapters were preceded by short summaries, and besides numerous references to parallel passages were inserted. There was a preface of one page, and Sower finished it with an addendum of four pages, giving an account of the different translations of the Bible. All told there were 1284 pages to the book. The title pages were printed in two colors, red and black. It was bound substantially in leather, with bevelled boards and clasps, and cost the subscribers about $2 50. Perfect copies nowadays readily bring from $100 upwards.

The types from which this Bible was printed were imported from Germany, and twelve copies of the book were sent to Europe by Sower. Although encouraged by some people in the publication of this Bible Sower, was opposed by many others, especially the clergy, who conceived the idea that it would be a false translation, and denounced it as such from their pulpits. To these attacks Sower made no immediate reply except to offer to the subscribers who who had become dissatisfied the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions and receiving their money in return. All this opposition was raised before the Bible had been completed and issued, and therefore before an opportunity had been given to the public to pass judgment upon its merits or demerits. When the Bible was issued his enemies discovered that the text was identical with Luther's, and there was nothing in the work to which any great exception could be taken. Indeed, its only difference from any previous edition was the additional apocryphal books. Sower, therefore, had an opportunity for revenge, but his only reply to all their calumnies was, "Instead of my Bible being false to proved them to be falsifiers." In September, 1758, Christopher Sower died, and his only son, Christopher, succeeded to his father's printing business. In 1763 he completed and issued a second edition of the Bible of 2000 copies. The type of this edition was set somewhat closer than that of the first edition and the titles also were printed entirely in black, but these were the principal and only noticeable differences between this edition and that of 1743.

The First Wholly American Bible.

In the year of 1766 Sower issued a third edition of the Bible, consisting of 3000 copies. The type for this edition was cast at his own foundry, and the ink and paper were also manufactured by him. Thus in every way this edition of the Bible was thoroughly American.

About the period that Sower placed this Bible upon the market the war of the Revolution broke out. It is not definitely known what were Sower's sentiments in regard to the struggle for independence, but he was said to be a Tory, and his son, Christopher, 3d, had made himself obnoxious in Germantown by his Tory utterances. After the

[illegible] arrived at the most important period of the Bible in Pennsylvania, namely, the time when the first Bible printed in English in this country with an American imprint was issued. The circumstances leading to the publication of this book are most interesting, but especially from the fact that it was authorized by the express resolutions of Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia. Perhaps the best and most interesting way to get at the early history and cause of this publication is to make the following extract from the journal of Congress, September 11th, 1777:

"The committee to whom the memorial of Dr. Allison and others was referred report: That they have conferred fully with the printers, etc., in this city, and are of opinion that the proper types for printing the Bible are not to be had in this country, and that the paper cannot be procured, but with such difficulties and subject to such casualties as to render any dependence on it altogether improper; that to import types for the purpose of setting up an entire edition of the Bible, and to strik [illegible] copies, with paper, binding [illegible] cost £10,272 10s 0d, which must be advanced by Congress, to be reimbursed by the sale of the books; that in the opinion of the committee, considerable difficulties will attend the procuring of the types and paper; that afterwards the risk of importing them will considerably enhance the cost, and that the calculations are subject to such uncertainty in the present state of affairs that Congress cannot much rely on them; that the use of the Bible is so universal and its importance so great that your committee refer the above to the consideration of Congress, and if Congress will order the Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 Bibles from Holland, Scotland or elsewhere into the different parts of the States of the Union."

Whereupon, it was moved "that the Committee of Commerce be directed to import 20,000 copies of the Bible."

Congress Approves Aitkens's Bible.

This act was carried out, but it was generally conceded that the importation was not made. It is worth noting the cause for this action of Congress. When the war of the Revolution broke out the supply of Bibles from England was cut off, while the demand for them was constantly increasing. This naturally in a short while caused a scarcity of Bibles in this country, and the subject was brought before Congress by Dr. Patrick Allison, one of the Chaplains of that body, and a memorial was also presented to Congress which urged the publication of the Bible in this country. The above extract is the reply of the committee to whom this memorial was referred. Mr. Robert Aitken, an enterprising Scotch publisher who had located in Philadelphia, upon reading this appeal immediately issued, in 1777, a copy of the New Testament, which was the first printed in this country in English with an American imprint. Aitken followed this edition up each succeeding year with another up to and including 1781. In January of 1781 he petitioned Congress that he had undertaken to print an entire edition of the Bible. In reference to this matter, in the Journal of Congress for September 12, 1782, we find the following: The committee, consisting of Mr. Duane, Mr. McKean and Mr. Witherspoon, to whom was referred a memorial of Robert Aitken, printer, dated January 21, 1781, respecting an edition of the Holy Scriptures, report: That Mr. Aitken has, at a great expense, now finished an American edition of the Holy Scriptures in English; that the committee have, from time to time, attended to his progress in the work; that they also recommended it to the two Chaplains of Congress to examine and give their opinion of the execution, who have accordingly reported thereupon.

The recommendation and report being as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 1, 1782.—Reverend Gentlemen: Our knowledge of your piety and public spirit leads us without apology to recommend to your particular attention the edition of the Holy Scriptures publishing by Mr. Aitken. He undertook this expensive work at the time when from the circumstances of the war, an English edition of the Bible could not be imported, nor any opinion formed how long the obstruction might continue. On this account, particularly, he deserves applause and encouragement. We, therefore, wish you, Reverend gentlemen, to examine the execution of the work, and if approved to give it the sanction of your judgment and the weight of your recommendation. We are with very great respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

JAMES DUANE, Chairman.

In behalf of a Committee of Congress on Mr. Aitken's Memorial.

Reverend Doctor White and Reverend Mr. Duffield, Chaplains of the United States Congress assembled.

REPORT.

Gentlemen:—Agreeably to your desire, we have paid attention to Mr. Robert Aitken's impression of the Holy Scriptures—of the Old and New Testament. Having selected and examined a variety of passages throughout. the work, we are of opinion that it is executed with great accuracy as to the sense, and with as few grammatical and typographical errors as could be expected in an undertaking of such magnitude. Being ourselves witnesses of the demand for this invaluable book, we rejoice in the prospect of a supply, hoping that it will prove as advantageous as it is honorable to the gentleman who has exerted himself to furnish it at the evident risk of private fortune.

We are, gentlemen, your very respectful and humble servants,

(Signed), WILLIAM WHITE,
GEORGE DUFFIELD.

Honorable James Duane, Esquire, Chairman, and the other honorable, gentlemen of the Committe of Congress on Mr. Aitken's Memorial, Philadelphia, September 10, 1782.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the United States in Congress assembled highly approved the pious and laudable undertaking of Mr. Aitken as subservient to the interest of religion, as well as an instance of the progress of arts in this country, and, being satisfied from the above reports of his care and accuracy in the execution of the work, they recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States, and hereby authorize him to publish this recommendation in the manner he shall think proper.

Aitken's Advertisement.

In less than a month after this, October 1st, 1782, the following advertisement appeared in the *Pennsylvania Packet*:

"ROBERT AITKEN,

Printer, Bookseller, Bookbinder and Stationer, at Pope's Head, in Market street, at the Coffee House, has just finishe [illegible] ow ready for sale

---

of most use. I wish to know
if the 'Loganian' will accept
them..
If you will call at 1900
Chestnut Street tomorrow
at 11 o'clock or or
Thursday at the same
hour I can show you
them & you might choose
Very sincerely
Elizabeth [illegible]

—cont.—

BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN BURNED.

[*From the Gentlemen's Magazine.*]

The history of our country since the days of printing is easily reflected in its burned literature, and so little has the public fire been any respecter of class or dignity, that no branch of intellectual activity has failed to contribute some author whose work or works have been consigned to the flames. Our greatest poets, philosophers, bishops, lawyers, novelists, heads of colleges, are all represented in my collection, forming, indeed, a motley but not insipid society, wherein the gravest questions of government and the deepest problems of speculation are handled with freedom, and the men who were the most divided in their lives meet at last in a common bond of harmony. Cowell, the friend of prerogative, finds himself here side by side with Milton, the Republican, and Sacheverell, the High Churchman, in close company with Tyndale and Defoe. For nearly 300 years the rude censorship of fire was applied to literature in England, beginning naturally in that fierce religious war we call the Reformation, which practically constitutes the history of England for some two centuries. The first grand occasion of book-burning was in response to the Pope's sentence against Martin Luther, when Wolsey went in state to St. Paul's, and many of Luther's publications were burned in the churc
yard during a sermon against them
Fisher, Bishop of Rochester (1521). But
first printed work by an Englishman
was so treated was actually the gospel.
story is too familiar to repeat, of th
occasions on which Tyndale's New
ment in English was burned before
Paul's; but in pausing to reflect t
book which met with this fiery fa
whose author ultimately met with th
is now sold in England by the mi
our received version is substantia
dale's), one can only stand agha
irony of the fearful contrast which
separated the laborer from his triu
perhaps we can scarcely wonder th
cestors, after centuries of mental b
should have tried to burn the light
unable to bear, causing it therel
shine the brighter. It certainly s
remarkable celerity, for in 1546
necessary to command all perso
ing them to deliver to the Bisho
to be openly burned, all works
purporting to be written by Frit
Wickliff, Joye, Basil, Bale, Bar
dale, Turner or Tracy. The ext
and costliness of the works inte
measure of the completeness w
this order was carried out, but
success, for the ideas survived
which contained them. A list of
is given in Foxe (v. 566) and comp
Coverdale, 28 by Bale, 13 by B
Becon), 10 by Frith, 9 by Tyndale, 7
6 by Turner, 3 by Barnes. Some
may still be read, but more are non-ex
A complete account of them and the
thors would almost amount to a histo
the Reformation itself; and, as they w
burned indiscriminately as heretical books,
they have not the same interest that attaches to books specifically condemned as heretical or seditious. Some of them, however, as a book lover can light upon—and pay for—are, of course, treasures of the highest order.

---

lowanc
"HEB
gentlem
Washir
he had
boy, as
has thi
tlemai

---

villa is
in every

OLD PAMPHLETS.

Not long ago the librarian of Harvard College saw a man stuffing some bags with old pamphlets and papers in a Boston auction-room, when, to his surprise and delight, he espied among them a pamphlet for which he had been looking for eleven years, in order to complete the volume of a valuable periodical. The purchaser of the old wares relinquished it willingly, and the librarian bore it away in triumph. The same librarian says that he has known a journey to be made from New York to Cambridge in a storm, just to consult an old funeral sermon, the only copy in the country. It was wanted in a law case, in which a half million dollars were involved.

PRICES PAID FOR BOOKS.

First Editions of Popular Authors Becoming Scarce—Big Figures Asked.

From Murray's Magazine.

Books which have belonged to those who from various causes have become famous are often eagerly inquired after; thus the "Rabelais" of Madame de Pompadour, in morocco, was some years ago bought for $300, two works—strange to say both on divinity—formerly in the collection of Diana of Poictiers, produced $400 and $425, and the vellum library of Davoust, who by cool courage raised himself from the ranks to be Prince of Eckmuhl, was sold in London for about $7,000. A second folio of Shakespeare, now in the royal collection at Windsor, belonged to Charles the First, who wrote therein with his own hand the words "Dum spiro spero, C. R.," and Sir Henry Herbert, to whom his Majesty presented the copy on the night before his execution, also wrote, "ex dono serenissimi regis Car. Servo suo Humiliss.—T. Herbert." This book was bought by George III. for $100, and a mistake which had been made by a former owner in describing Sir T. Herbert as Master of the Revels to King Charles I., whereas it was Sir H. Herbert who held that office, having been amended by King George in his own handwriting, the copy happens to contain the autographs of two English monarchs in addition to that of "rare Ben Jonson."

This is, indeed, the identical copy thus referred to by Milton in his "Iconoclastes:" "I shall not instance an abstruse writer wherein the King might be less conversant, but one whom we well know was the closest companion of his solitudes, William Shakespeare." Among the books in the possession of Marie Antoinette, the little volume of prayers, "Office de la Divine Providence," is especially valued, inasmuch as, shortly before her death, she inscribed these words on the fly leaf: "Ce 16 Octobre, a 4h. ½ du matin. Mon dieu! Ayez pitie de moi! Mes yeux n'ont plus de larmes pour vous, mes pauvres enfants. Adieu, adieu!—Marie Antoinette." But the busy scissors of some frantic lover of equality and fraternity could not resist the temptation to mar the offending little book by clipping away the arms on the corners. In the public library of Auckland, N. Z., is a check signed by the same unfortunate Queen on November 6, 1789, for 4,000 livres, which has never yet been cashed.

The ra
editions
erasure o
it is prob
tions wo
$1,000. F
daily be
asked ar
Thackera
etc. A b
ered a fa
speare, b
thought t
Large pri
virs whic

Show the
twelv

though in
procured
the witici
genuine
from spu
ror in p
number
Sometim
finds rew
treasure.
the good
tained B
for three
Beuscam
stall man
the librar
down the
the book
Piccadilly
would ha
without
way." In
was dis
Maidenhe
few shilli
a copy
late Mr.
from a
shilling,
Thorold
the com
The earlie
of "Pilgri
chased,
pence, bu
Museum
of the sa
that Quee
her librar
book on a
books th
the books
very cleve
the books
than for a
"Antiqua
(Clark the
picked up
black lett
"Game of
don publis
Johnson
Septuagin
a booksel
for $100. T
for the Wi

---

dairy, 9a15c.. Eggs were a shade easier; fresh, 14a14½c.

THE FIRST AMERICAN BIBLE.

The "Aitken Bible" Not the First English Bible Printed in America.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

In an article on "Early Bibles," published in the *Public Ledger* Wednesday, August 21, will be found the following mis-statement of a well-known fact in early American typography, viz.:

"It is a notable fact that neither the Old nor the New Testament was ever printed here in the English language till after this country declared independence." The "notable fact" is that the exclusive privilege long enjoyed by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge of printing the sacred Scriptures had deterred the American printers and publishers from engaging in their publication. But about the year 1752, intermediate between the first and second issues of Sauer's "German Bible," an edition of the English Scriptures, in 4to., was secretly carried through the press in Boston. It was printed by Kneeland & Green, the former the publisher of the *New England Journal*, the fourth newspaper in the colony and the second undertaken by a printer. Green was the son and afterward the successor of Timothy Green, the second printer of Connecticut.

This first American edition of the Bible in the English language was chiefly made for Daniel Henchman, of Boston, the most enterprising bookseller in British America before the Revolution. To avoid the risk of prosecution of those in England, who printed cum privilegio, the book had the London imprint of the copy from which it was made, viz.: "London: Printed by Mark Baskett, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty."

The edition was small, and, having a London imprint and close resemblance in typography to the English editions, the fact of its publication has been generally overlooked. But Isaiah Thomas, who was an apprentice in Boston a few years after, heard the compositors of the work speak of it, and Governor Hancock, a relative of Henchman, owned a copy of it and related the circumstances.

The Rev. Convers Francis, in his admirable "Life of John Eliot" (Boston, 1836), concludes his account of the first edition of "Eliot's Bible" (1663) with the following remarks:

"This Indian version of the Scriptures was the first Bible ever printed on the continent of America. It was not till about the middle of the next century that the Scriptures in the English language were printed in this

THE BIBLE.

HISTORY OF ITS PUBLICATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

From Christopher Sower's First Edition to the Founding of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

At the northeast corner of Seventh and Walnut streets stands the building of the Pennsylvania Bible Society, instituted as long ago as 1808. From this institution many hundred Bibles are yearly distributed throughout the State and country. These Bibles are printed in this country, and the majority of the Bibles in use in America today in churches or in families are issued by American publishing houses. In fact the publication of the Bible in the United States has now become so common that it is taken as a matter of course. It is, therefore, somewhat difficult to appreciate the very different state of affairs which prevailed in the State of Pennsylvania during the first quarter of the last century, and, indeed, down to 1790. At that time all the Bibles used in the colonies were printed in Europe, whether Genevan, Bishop's, King James's or Douay. These Bibles were imported and sold here at a much lower figure than it was possible for our colonial printers to issue editions of a similar nature.

There was but one exception to this rule; that was the Eliot Indian Bible, the first edition of which was issued in 1663 at Cambridge, Massachusetts. This was the first Bible printed in this country, but it is well to bear in mind that the expenses of its publication were defrayed by the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Therefore, although American printed, this Bible was instituted by the people of England. If we wish to discover and trace a history of the American Bible in the literal sense of the word we must look to the State of Pennsylvania, commencing our history in the year 1688.

Bradford's Attempt.

Then we find the first record of an attempt at the printing of an American edition of the Bible. This originated with our first printer, William Bradford, a Quaker, who arrived in this country in the Welcome, with Penn, and commenced printing in Philadelphia, or near the city, as early as 1687. The next year he issued his proposals for printing a large Bible. For many years this fact was unknown, but was one day accidentally discovered by Mr. Nathan Kite, a book publisher, of Philadelphia, 150 years after its publication, when he unearthed a printed copy of the proposals in the interlining of a book that he was repairing. It is reported that for a number of years this valuable relic was upon exhibition in Independence Hall, until it was purchased by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania for $100. It is well known that the Bible referred to in these proposals was never issued, and it is not difficult to discern the cause, as the people failed, doubtless, to give Bradford the slightest encouragement in the undertaking, arguing, not without cause, that their English Bibles were far superior to the best editions of the Scriptures that Bradford, with his limited facilities, could possibly issue.

Christopher Sower's Bible.

From 1688 to 1740 an American publisher could not be found who had the hardihood to carry out what Bradford had proposed; but about 1740 a number of the countrymen of Christopher Sower, an enterprising German doctor and apothecary, who had emigrated to this country in 1724, and settled permanently in Germantown in 1731, urged him to publish an edition of the Bible in German. Previous to this, Sower had maintained an extensive correspondence with his friends in Europe, and he often referred in his letters to the destitute condition of his countrymen in regard to the Bible or literature of any kind. In 1738 he obtained possession of a printing press. After publishing a number of pamphlets he issued an almanac, and about two years after the setting up of his press he issued his quarto edition of the Bible, printed in the German language in long primer type. The task was an enormous one; but for three years he labored patiently on this work, and in 1743 he had the extreme satisfaction of issuing 1200 copies of the first edition of the Bible in America in a European language. The completeness and execution of this work were marvellous when the obstacles which Sower was obliged to overcome are considered. The text was a reprint of the 34th edition of Luther's Bible. Sower's Bible, besides containing the Apocrypha, as usually printed, contained the Third and Fourth Books of Ezra and the Third Book of Maccabees, which is to be found in the 1708 edition of the Halle Bible. Sower also printed the seventh chapter of the fourth book of Ezra, which appears in very few, if any, other editions. The chapters were preceded by short summaries, and besides numerous references to parallel passages were inserted. There was a preface of one page, and Sower finished it with an addendum of four pages, giving an account of the different translations of the Bible. All told there were 1284 pages to the book. The title pages were printed in two colors, red and black. It was bound substantially in leather, with bevelled boards and clasps, and cost the subscribers about $2 50. Perfect copies nowadays readily bring from $100 upwards.

The types from which this Bible was printed were imported from Germany, and twelve copies of the book were sent to Europe by Sower. Although encouraged by some people in the publication of this Bible Sower, was opposed by many others, especially the clergy, who conceived the idea that it would be a false translation, and denounced it as such from their pulpits. To these attacks Sower made no immediate reply except to offer to the subscribers who who had become dissatisfied the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions and receiving their money in return. All this opposition was raised before the Bible had been completed and issued, and therefore before an opportunity had been given to the public to pass judgment upon its merits or demerits. When the Bible was issued his enemies discovered that the text was identical with Luther's, and there was nothing in the work to which any great exception could be taken. Indeed, its only difference from any previous edition was the additional apocryphal books. Sower, therefore, had an opportunity for revenge, but his only reply to all their calumnies was, "Instead of my Bible being false to proved them to be falsifiers." In September, 1758, Christopher Sower died, and his only son, Christopher, succeeded to his father's printing business. In 1763 he completed and issued a second edition of the Bible of 2000 copies. The type of this edition was set somewhat closer than that of the first edition and the titles also were printed entirely in black, but these were the principal and only noticeable differences between this edition and that of 1743.

The First Wholly American Bible.

In the year of 1766 Sower issued a third edition of the Bible, consisting of 3000 copies. The type for this edition was cast at his own foundry, and the ink and paper were also manufactured by him. Thus in every way this edition of the Bible was thoroughly American.

About the period that Sower placed this Bible upon the market the war of the Revolution broke out. It is not definitely known what were Sower's sentiments in regard to the struggle for independence, but he was said to be a Tory, and his son, Christopher, 3d, had made himself obnoxious in Germantown by his Tory utterances. After the battle of Germantown Sower was persuaded to leave his house and business and seek the protection of the British in Philadelphia, where he remained until the 23d of May, 1778, when he returned to his home. This was about eighteen days before the evacuation of the city by the British. He was arrested upon his arrival home and branded as a traitor. After some pretty hard treatment, inflicted by the American Army, he was released upon parole and allowed to reside in Mathatchen, about twenty miles from Germantown. Upon the 23d of June, 1778, he returned again to Germantown, and that day his estate was confiscated, but he heard of his case too late to appear in court to show why his estate should not be taken. His property was therefore seized and soon after sold, as the following advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Packet*, August 11th, 1778, foretells:

"Auction sale of Christopher Sower's Printed Bibles, Household Goods, etc., etc., August, 1778.

"Germantown, Philadelphia county, August 4th, 1778.

"On Monday, the 24th, will be sold by public vendue, at the house of Christopher Sower in Germantown, and continue from day to day till all is sold, his household furniture, consisting of feather beds, bedding, chairs, tables, desks, corner cubbards, and kitchen furniture, all his types, printing press, etc., etc. Likewise a large assortment of printed titles, a variety of other sorts ready for binding, in the Dutch language, and a number of Dutch and English books ready bound. A large assortment of paints and oil, a quantity of sulphur, antimony, alum, vitrols, spirits of turpentine, sweet oil, a variety of drugs and sundry other things too tedious to mention.

"Due attendance will be given by

"GEORGE SMITH, Agent P. C."

About 1000 copies of this third edition of the Bible, in sheets, were sold at this sale for less than their value as old paper. They were carried to Philadelphia, at least the greater portion of them, and there destroyed, being used for cartridge paper. Mr. Thomas, in his history of printing, relates that a German bookbinder in Germantown, by the name of Seibert, and his son-in-law, Michael Breemeyer, hearing that the Bible sheets were selling for the use already mentioned, went to Philadelphia and repurchased what remained, and also a part of the printing materials. They then reprinted such parts of the Bible as had been destroyed, and thus completed the copies, which they bound and sold.

The First English Bible.

We have now arrived at the most important period of the Bible in Pennsylvania, namely, the time when the first Bible printed in English in this country with an American imprint was issued. The circumstances leading to the publication of this book are most interesting, but especially from the fact that it was authorized by the express resolutions of Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia. Perhaps the best and most interesting way to get at the early history and cause of this publication is to make the following extract from the journal of Congress, September 11th, 1777:

"The committee to whom the memorial of Dr. Allison and others was referred report: That they have conferred fully with the printers, etc., in this city, and are of opinion that the proper types for printing the Bible are not to be had in this country, and that the paper cannot be procured, but with such difficulties and subject to such casualties as to render any dependence on it altogether improper; that to import types for the purpose of setting up an entire edition of the Bible, and to strik copies, with paper, binding,

cost £10,272 10s 0d, which must be advanced by Congress, to be reimbursed by the sale of the books; that in the opinion of the committee, considerable difficulties will attend the procuring of the types and paper; that afterwards the risk of importing them will considerably enhance the cost, and that the calculations are subject to such uncertainty in the present state of affairs that Congress cannot much rely on them; that the use of the Bible is so universal and its importance so great that your committee refer the above to the consideration of Congress, and if Congress will order the Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 Bibles from Holland, Scotland or elsewhere into the different parts of the States of the Union."

Whereupon, it was moved "that the Committee of Commerce be directed to import 20,000 copies of the Bible."

Congress Approves Aitkens's Bible.

This act was carried out, but it was generally conceded that the importation was not made. It is worth noting the cause for this action of Congress. When the war of the Revolution broke out the supply of Bibles from England was cut off, while the demand for them was constantly increasing. This naturally in a short while caused a scarcity of Bibles in this country, and the subject was brought before Congress by Dr. Patrick Allison, one of the Chaplains of that body, and a memorial was also presented to Congress which urged the publication of the Bible in this country. The above extract is the reply of the committee to whom this memorial was referred. Mr. Robert Aitken, an enterprising Scotch publisher who had located in Philadelphia, upon reading this appeal immediately issued, in 1777, a copy of the New Testament, which was the first printed in this country in English with an American imprint. Aitken followed this edition up each succeeding year with another up to and including 1781. In January of 1781 he petitioned Congress that he had undertaken to print an entire edition of the Bible. In reference to this matter, in the Journal of Congress for September 12, 1782, we find the following: The committee, consisting of Mr. Duane, Mr. McKean and Mr. Witherspoon, to whom was referred a memorial of Robert Aitken, printer, dated January 21, 1781, respecting an edition of the Holy Scriptures, report: That Mr. Aitken has, at a great expense, now finished an American edition of the Holy Scriptures in English; that the committee have, from time to time, attended to his progress in the work; that they also recommended it to the two Chaplains of Congress to examine and give their opinion of the execution, who have accordingly reported thereupon.

The recommendation and report being as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 1, 1782.—Reverend Gentlemen: Our knowledge of your piety and public spirit leads us without apology to recommend to your particular attention the edition of the Holy Scriptures publishing by Mr. Aitken. He undertook this expensive work at the time when from the circumstances of the war, an English edition of the Bible could not be imported, nor any opinion formed how long the obstruction might continue. On this account, particularly, he deserves applause and encouragement. We, therefore, wish you, Reverend gentlemen, to examine the execution of the work, and if approved to give it the sanction of your judgment and the weight of your recommendation. We are with very great respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

JAMES DUANE, Chairman.

In behalf of a Committee of Congress on Mr. Aitken's Memorial.

Reverend Doctor White and Reverend Mr. Duffield, Chaplains of the United States Congress assembled.

REPORT.

Gentlemen:—Agreeably to your desire, we have paid attention to Mr. Robert Aitken's impression of the Holy Scriptures—of the Old and New Testament. Having selected and examined a variety of passages throughout the work, we are of opinion that it is executed with great accuracy as to the sense, and with as few grammatical and typographical errors as could be expected in an undertaking of such magnitude. Being ourselves witnesses of the demand for this invaluable book, we rejoice in the prospect of a supply, hoping that it will prove as advantageous as it is honorable to the gentleman who has exerted himself to furnish it at the evident risk of private fortune.

We are, gentlemen, your very respectful and humble servants,

(Signed), WILLIAM WHITE,
GEORGE DUFFIELD.

Honorable James Duane, Esquire, Chairman, and the other honorable gentlemen of the Committe of Congress on Mr. Aitken's Memorial, Philadelphia, September 10, 1782.

Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the United States in Congress assembled highly approved the pious and laudable undertaking of Mr. Aitken as subservient to the interest of religion, as well as an instance of the progress of arts in this country, and, being satisfied from the above reports of his care and accuracy in the execution of the work, they recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States, and hereby authorize him to publish this recommendation in the manner he shall think proper.

Aitken's Advertisement.

In less than a month after this, October 1st, 1782, the following advertisement appeared in the *Pennsylvania Packet:*

"ROBERT AITKEN,

Printer, Bookseller, Bookbinder and Stationer, at Pope's Head, in Market stre
r the Coffee House, has just finishe
ow ready for sale

THE HOLY BIBLE; with which booksellers, storekeepers and others in town and country may be supplied by wholesale and retail on the most reasonable terms will admit.

"The serious Christian will be pleased to find that the scarcity of Bibles, of which he has so long had reason to complain, is now removed, and the patriot will rejoice at the advance in the arts which has at length produced the first edition of the Holy Scriptures in the English language ever printed in America. Each of these will allow the merit due to so capital an undertaking, and the trader will find his interest in affording his patronage and encouragement to this work, as several circumstances, particularly the largeness of the type and the remarkable good quality of the paper, render this edition superior to any of the same size imported from Europe.

"N. B.—The Bibles will be sold either bound or in sheets, and a suitable discount allowed to those who purchase large quantities."

This Bible was a small duodecimo, printed in brevier type, and, although not especially remarkable for typography or binding, it was neatly gotten up, and a great credit to Mr. Aitken's enterprise. A very short time after Mr. Aitken placed this Bible upon the market peace was declared between the United States and England, and amongst the first importations from the other side were Bibles, and they were sold in Philadelphia for a lower price than it was possible for Mr. Aitken to dispose of copies of his edition at a profit. On this account his Bible was a failure, and Aitken was nearly, if not quite, ruined by the undertaking, as it was with great difficulty that he could dispose of his Bibles, and he was at last obliged to appeal to the Synod of Philadelphia to help in the sale of the book. In view of this appeal, on the 24th of May, 1783, the Philadelphia Synod resolved: "As Mr. Aitken, from laudable motives, and with great expense, hath undertaken and executed an elegant impression of the Holy Scriptures, which, on account of the importation of Bibles from Europe will be very injurious to his temporal circumstances, the Synod agree that the committee to purchase Bibles for distribution among the poor purchase Aitken's Bibles and no other, and earnestly recommend it to all to purchase such in preference to any other."

This was the disastrous history of the publication of the first Bible in English, with an American imprint, in America.

Carey's Douay Bible.

The next important period in the history of the publication of the Bible in Pennsylvania occurred January 26, 1789, when Mathew Carey, a native of Ireland, who had emigrated to this country and established a Catholic book publication office in Philadelphia, issued proposals for the publication of the Douay Bible by subscription, and in the following year issued upon his own responsibility, without the aid of Church or State, the first number, and thus successfully carried through a very bold undertaking, for in those early days the Protestants in this State outnumbered the Catholics by a very large majority, but Mr. Carey received the full support of the Roman Catholic people all over the country, and his Bible consequently was a success—so great, indeed, that he was obliged in a few years to publish a second edition.

The conditions under which Carey issued this Bible were as follows:

Conditions:

1. This edition will follow verbatim the translation executed at Douay.
2. It will be printed in large quarto, on the same kind of type, as fine paper, and with the same number of pages as in the Oxford edition of the Bible.
3. The price to subscribers will be six Spanish milled dollars; one-half to be paid at the time of subscribing; the other on delivery of the book neatly bound.
4. As soon as 400 copies are subscribed for, it will be put to press and completed without delay.
5. The subscribers' names will be prefixed as patrons of the work.

Subscriptions received by the Rt. Rev. Dr. John Carroll, etc.

These conditions, as time passed on, were slightly altered. One of the objections made by the public was the price of the Bible, which was considered too expensive, four dollars a copy being thought a more reasonable remuneration for the publication. Carey could not agree to this reduction unless his subscription list was considerably enlarged, but he promised that if 800 copies were subscribed for before the publication of the book, the charge to these subscribers would be five dollars, and if 1200 copies were subscribed for he would reduce the price to $4 each. On December 12th, 1789, there appeared in the *Pennsylvania Packet* the following advertisement: "This day is Published by M. Carey, in Front street, a few doors above Market street, Number I, of The Holy Bible. Translated from the Latin Vulgat: Diligently compared with the Hebrew, Greek and other editions in Divers Languages; and first published by the English College at Douay, Anno 1609: Newly Revised and Corrected according to the Clementin Edition of the Scriptures; with Annotations for elucidating the principal difficulties of Holy Writ.

"Haurietis aquas in gaudio de fontibus Salvatores.—Isaiah xii, 3."

Conditions.

1. This work, which will contain 984 pages, will be comprised in 48 numbers, one of which will be published weekly (price one-eighth of a dollar) until the whole is completed.
2. The subscribers are to be furnished with the numbers every Saturday morning at the publisher's store, and are to pay for each on delivery.

The subscribers' names will be printed. The price of the Bible to non-subscribers will be seven dollars.

As this mode of publication renders the purchase of the work easy to all classes of people, as this is the first American edition of the Douay Bible, and as Catholics, equally with other religionists, ought to be able "To satisfy every one that asketh a reason of that hope which is in them" (I Pet., iii, 15), the printer flatters himself that every Catholic family not already possessed of a Bible will favor this work with their support. Those gentlemen to whose laudable exertions the printer is indebted for the encouragement he has already been honored with, are respectfully requested once more to employ their zeal and industry to promote the further success of an attempt which they have sanctioned with their approbation and patronage.

The subscription still remains open on the original plan, viz.: To pay three dollars at the time of subscribing and the same sum on the delivery of the volume.

In 1790, the name of Carey's firm was changed to Carey, Stewart & Co. It was in this year that they determined to abandon the publication of the book in numbers, but to issue it instead in two volumes. In September of this year the publishers issued an address to the subscribers of the Bible, wherein it was stated among other things that the book would positively be published on the 12th of November, 1790. The printers also circulated an address to the Protestants of the United States, wherein they solicited their patronage of the Douay Translation of the Vulgate Bible, upon the ground that Protestant divines had produced a number of objections to the Church of England's Translation of the Scriptures, and that these various and important errors had been corrected in the Douay Translation.

On the 1st of December, 1790, this Bible, which was the first quarto edition published in English in the United States, appeared complete, having been printed on type especially cast for the purpose by Messrs. Baine & Co.

A Family Bible.

The same year that the Carey Bible was issued another edition of the Scriptures was published in Philadelphia by William Woodhouse under the title of "The Christian's New and Complete Family Bible." This edition was published in numbers, and was first announced in the *Pennsylvania Packet* November 15, 1788, when No. 1 appeared. January 3, 1789, when No. 10 appeared, another advertisement was inserted in the *Packet*, and on May 26, 1790, the *Pennsylvania Gazette* contained the following:

"This day is published and to be sold by all the booksellers, the Christians' new and complete Family Bible, No. 77. The Old and New Testaments being now entirely printed off, subscribers are requested to send for their numbers as quick as possible. The Apocrypha will soon be ready for delivery. Agreeable to the proposals, the work was to be comprised in 75 numbers; however, it will considerably exceed that quantity, but all above No. 75 shall be delivered gratis to subscribers, the number of whom is nearly 1000." Another edition of the Bible, in 1790 was printed by William Young, bookseller and stationer, at the corner of Second and Chestnut streets. This edition was first advertise
Pennsylvania Packet, January 27th
"A School Bible," and it appeare
course of the following year. Th
editions of the Bible were pub
Philadelphia in one year, entirely
responsibility of the publishers, wi
support of any church organizat
Government, depending entirely u
lic patronage.

From this time on to 1800 th
number of editions of the Bible
in Philadelphia; two or three we
by William Young, who appar
successful in his publications.

The Hot Press Bible.

In 1796 a Bible was issued in th
Berriman & Co., printed by Jaco
man. This edition contained a
engravings, some by Dr. Ande
was the first wood engraver in th
Berriman & Co. also issued an edi
Bible the same year without plat
the first hot-pressed edition of
issued in America was p
Philadelphia "for John Thom
Abraham Small, from the ho
John Thompson." This book
nally issued is forty numbers,
ing in June of 1796. The pri
cents a number. The work is a
by a frontispiece, engraved by Lawson, and
the Apocrypha is entirely in italics. Some
of the copies have at the end tw
subscribers' names. This hot-
tion is one of the most interest
early editions of the Bible, and c
are eagerly sought after by antiqu

E. LESLIE G

SHIPPING INTE

SOME RARE OLD BIBLES.

Historian Cassel's Valuable Collection of Sacred Books.

Daniel K. Cassel, the Mennonite historian, who resides at No. 4333 Germantown avenue, Germantown, has in his possession a large and valuable collection of old and rare Bibles and interesting historical papers which, it is said, in many instances cannot be duplicated. He has paid large sums for a number of the old relics, which he prizes very highly, and they find a conspicuous place in his parlor, ready to be shown to Biblical students and visitors.

In the collection is a large, well-preserved Bible, leather and wooden back and brass corners, published in Basel, Germany, in 1798. It is printed in the German language, and has been in Mr. Cassel's possession for nearly fifty years.

Another old relic is a Bible bound in hog-skin, brought from Germany by the grandfather of Mr. Levering. It was also published at Basel the same year. It has a lengthy sketch of Martin Luther, explanations to each verse, and a preface to each book, not found nowadays in printed Bibles.

A much smaller Bible contains an interesting account of the first settlers of Nicetown by the Nices, giving the dates of their birth, etc. It was printed at Wurtemberg, Frankford-on-the-Main, in 1682.

One of the rarest and most valuable books in his collection, Mr. Cassel considers, is the Polyglot edition of the Bible, printed in twelve different languages and containing the first four Books of the New Testament. It was printed by Elias Huttery, of Murenberg, Germany in 1599. Antiquarians and members of the Pennsylvania Historical Society know nothing of the existence of a similar work of that date, published in Germany.

Among other treasures in the form of books is a religious work by Christopher Sower, of Germantown, the first German printer in America. It bears date of 1755. There are three volumes out of five of the Mosaic laws printed at Frankford-on-the-Main in 1775. Mr. Cassel has searched everywhere for the other two volumes, but thus far has been unable to secure them. He has a history of the Moravians, giving also an account of the Moravian Synods from 1782 to 1789.

A "complete and universal English dictionary of a new plan" contains a list of the succession of the Kings of England from 827 to 1760. It was published by Rev. James Barclay, curate of Edmonton, Middlesex. Mr. Cassel has written a history of the Mennonites. He is a member and trustee of the old Mennonite Church, Germantown. He is at work on the history of the old David Rittenhouse family, and has already included over 5000 names in his book, which embraces the first four generations.

HYPNOTIZED BALL GUESTS.

BOOKS FOR BIBLIOMANIACS.

Twenty-five Copies of Works Valued Abo Two Thousand Dollars.

The following is a list made in Paris
the twenty-five highest-priced books in t
world:

"L'Amoureux Transi," by Jean Bouch
printed on vellum. Quaritch paid $3,200
it at the Sunderland sale, in 1882.

The Psalter of Mentz of 1457. Louis XV
paid $2,400 for a copy of it, which he
sented to the National Library at
Quaritch's price for the second editi
1459 is $25,000.

The Valdarfer "Boccaccio," printe
Venice in 1471, brought, at the Bla
sale, $10,400.

Boucher's "Figures de Molière," bro
$5,400 at the Pichon sale.

The Caxton "Boccaccio," printed in 1
brought $4,000 at the Techener sale, in 1
"L'Office de la Toussaint" brought $3,
at the La Carelle sale. Baron Pichon p
$9 for it in 1847.

"Boccaccio," first edition of 1471,
$11,300 at the Roxburghe sale.

The works of Rabelais, printed b
brought $2,800 at the Techener sale,

"Monument du Costume," by Fre
and Moreau, brought $4,500 at the F
sale, in 1880.

The works of Origene, bound w
arms of Henry II. and Diane de
brought $3,600 at the Muller sale, in

Ovid's "Metamorphosis," illustra
Moreau, Boucher, and Eisen, brough
at the Marquis sale, in 1890.

"Entrée de Henri II, à Paris et de
IX." brought $4,000 at the Destaill
in 1891.

"La Chasse Royale du Roi Char
printed in 1625, brought $2,536 at
hague sale.

"Les Amours de Daphnis et
printed in 1718, brought $3,400 at [illegible]
tin-Bauchart sale.

"Le Songe de Polyphile," printed [illegible]
by Aldus, brought $2,950 at the [illegible]
in 1882.

"Les Quatre [illegible] was sold by [illegible]
by Caxton [illegible]
for $2,500.

The works of Virgil, printed on vell
Rome in 1470, were sold by Quarit
$5,000.

The works of Homer, printed by Al
1504, were sold by Quaritch for $3,300.

The "Roland" of Ariosto, pri
Ferrara in 1516, was sold by Quari
$2,500.

The first edition, 1469, of Gelius
brought $4,000 at the Sunderland
1882.

The works of Monstrelet, printed
lum in 1500, brought $5,600 at the T
sale, in 1887.

"The Boke of St. Albans," printe
1486, was sold by Quaritch for $3,
"Historiarum Romanorum," print
Venice in 1470, was sold by Quarit
$4,000.

The first folio of Shakespea
was sold by Quaritch for $6,000.

Gutenberg's Bible, second editio
thereabout, was sold by Qua
$15,000.

Genl. Circulating Liby (ac. of)

Penna. Journal. Jan. 18, 1770.

~~Book plate~~ 1104 S. L.
Library. p. 149.

Robinson's Circulating Library

FICTITIOUS BOOKS.

Old Titles Invented by Charles Dickens and Thomas Hood.

The devout and confirmed bibliophile is never so happy as when he is completely surrounded and shut in by books. He loves to find himself in a retreat whose walls of leather backs of all ages and sizes form his prison, and many owners of libraries even cover the inner sides of the doors with fictitious book backs.

There are some rows of mock volumes of this kind at Gadshill, where Charles Dickens spent his last years, and in the composition of the titles the great novelist displayed a good deal of humor. "Evidences of Christianity" is the name of a treatise ascribed to King Henry VIII, and the author of a "Universal Letter Writer" is the immortal Mr. Toots. Other works on the list are "Catalogue of Statues to the Duke of Wellington," "Butcher's Suetonius," "History of a Short Chancery Case," in twenty volumes, with index:—"The Dolphin Oracle," "The Quarrelly Review." "Socrates on Wedlock," "General Tom Thumb's Modern Warfare," "Waterworks," by Father Mathew; "The Books of Moses and Sons," "Shelley's Oysters," "Morrison's Pills, Progress," "Acoustics—Cod's Sounds," "Phrenology—Italian-Organs," "Optics—Hooks and Eyes," "The Gunpowder Magazine," "Lady Godiva on the Horse," "Street's Walk," "Jonah's Anecdotes of the Whale," "Kant's Eminent Humbugs," "Life and Letters of the Learned Pig," "Captain Cook's Life of Savage," "Cockatoo on Perch," "Cribb's Edition of Miller," and "Adam's Precedents."

But a much better collection of fictitious titles may be seen at Chatsworth, the Duke of Devonshire's beautiful Derbyshire seat. They cover the door opening upon the library staircase, and were composed in 1831 by Thomas Hood. The list is rather a long one, but among the most amusing items are:—"Debrett on Chain Piers;" "Spenser, with Chaucer's Tales;" "Lamb on the Death of Wolfe;" "On the Site of Tully's Offices;" "On Sore Throat and the Migration of the Swallow;" "Peel on Bell's System;" "On Trial by Jury, with Remarkable Packing Cases;" "Cook's Specimens of the Sandwich Tongue;" "Johnson's Contradictionary;" "Dibdin's Cream of Tartar;" "Tadpoles, or Tales Out of My Own Head;" "On Cutting off Heirs with a Shilling, by Barber Beaumont;" "Hoyle's Quadrupedia, or Rules of All-Fours;" "Boyle on Steam;" "Plurality of Livings with Special Regard to the Com[illegible]n Cat;" "Hoyle on the Game Laws;" "The Rape of the Lock with Bramah's Notes;" "Annual Parliaments: A Plea for Short Commons;" "Mackintosh, Macculloch, and Macaulay on Almacks;" "Considerations sur le Vrai Guy et le Faux;" "Percy Vere, in Forty Volumes;" "On the Affinity of the Death Watch and Sheep Tick;" "Rules for Punctuation, by a Thoroughbred Pointer;" "Recollections of Bannister, by Lord Stair;" "The Scotch Boccaccio, by D. Cameron;" "Prize Poems in Blank Verse;" "Cursory Remarks on Swearing;" "Equestrian Burglary, or the Breaking in of Horses;" "Scott and Lot, by the Author of Waverley."

List of dummy titles is given
in Fitzgerald's "Book Fancier" p.1
& in the Bibliographer vol. 3 or 4. p
vol. 4. p. 137 & vol. 2. p. 53.

— " —

Fictitious titles see Penna. J
(178-F.) Dec. 12, 1771

— " —

Books Wanted.

"The inclosed facetious advertisement of 'Books Wanted' deserves," says a correspondent, "to be placed on record in your columns. I have seen several suggestions for titles of library dummies, and some on Mr. Hartley's list would answer admirably for that purpose—'H. H. Hartley, second-hand bookseller, will give good prices for copies of the following books: "The Art of Turning by Handel," "John Knox on Death's Door," "Malthus' Attack on Infantry," "Macadam's Views in Rhodes," "Pygmalion, by Lord Bacon," "Memoirs of Mrs. Mountain, by Ben Lomond," "Boyle on Steam," "Lamb's Recollections of Suet," "Peel on our Pavement," "Johnson's Contradictionary," "Freeman Inclosing on Waste Lands," "Dr. Kitchener's Life of Captain Cook," "Mr. J. Horner on Poet's Corner," "A Pinch of Snuff by Dean Swift," "Ode to Cologne, by U. Smellie," and "The Corn Question, by John Bunyan."'—*Pall Mall Budget.*

Dickens Dummy Titles see
Robt. Langton "Childhood of
Dickens" p. 122.

Librarian — Humphrey Wanley

Library
"Charter of Union Liby. Co. of Hatborough. Phila, 1788.
(1632. O.)2

Libraries in Phila. — early
The General Circulating Library
at the Green-Lamp in
Spruce St.

Bookplt. in Bookplt scrap book

Library
ad. Bell's Circulating Library.
v. Penna. Ledger Nov. 19. 1777
" Apl. 15, 25, 1778
ad. of Phila. Liby. members

LETIN—PHILADELPHA, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 189

Reviews

was to spare him until he saw his prostrate country not only rehabilitated, but
that had by
ce in an at-
e better to

exceptional

Me

AD

n and Things

HE librarians who are now in session here have developed into a distinct professional class, by no means small in number. The great rowth of free libraries in the country at large in the past forty years has created a special field for that talent which not simply classifies and catalogues, but which can act with the quickness and precision of an unerring guide. A well-ordered mind, a powerful memory, some knowledge of languages, a large accumulation of general information, something of the Baconian instinct in all provinces of learning and a good deal of interest, if not enthusiasm, in serving the wants and tastes of the humblest reader as well as of the scholar, are the prime qualifications for the post of a librarian of the first class. Those who have had occasion to visit the Congressional Library, when old Mr. Spofford was in the full vigor of his vigors, will readily recall one who was near to the ideal of a perfect librarian. In the half a million volumes that he had gathered together there it was doubtful whether there was one that he could not describe or refer to when needed by an inquirer groping his way. At least this was the impression produced by his prodigious receptivity as a mental store house. Such men as Poole and Winsor have had the same faculties. It was possessed in large degree by Lloyd P. Smith at the old Philadelphia Library on Fifth street, or in the days when his intellect had not been mastered and dwarfed by the allurements of the spiritualistic cult. Mr. Smith was not only the foremost of the hereditary line of librarians whom James Logan entailed [illegible] the library, but he would have been foremost among the greatest of modern librarians if his conservative environment had not been such as to cause him to move chiefly during his lifetime in the grooves of scholarship.

* * * *

With the exception of perhaps only the Athenaeum in Boston there is no library in this country that has been more conservative in its influence and operations than the old Philadelphia. Founded by Franklin and his fellow-members of the Junta at a time when there was not a good bookseller's shop anywhere south of New England, it was intended originally as a subscription library for the people. In the Rev. Dr. Duche's time he observed that there were twenty tradesmen for every one person of distinction or fortune that visited the collection. In our time the tendency has been to reverse the ratio.

* * * *

Of course, it has long been the policy of the Library Company, especially, after the foundation of the Mercantile Library, more than seventy years ago, not so much to meet a popular demand as to supply the needs of specialists in reference work and of general readers of cultivated tastes. It has leaned much more to the Logan than to the Franklin idea of a public library. Librarians, for instance, have frequently come to the city, and expressed surprise that so elaborate a building as the "Ridgway Branch" of the Library Company, on South Broad street, should be almost worthless to the general purposes of the people of Philadelphia. Since it was opened nineteen years ago there have been probably not more than two dozen visitors a day on an average. Their footsteps reverberating in the dismal silence of the corridors sound like a mockery of the wishes of the old savant who lies in the tomb beneath the central aisle by the side of the ashes of his wife, the imperious Madame Rush. It is certain that when he framed his will and left his fortune as an endowment of a library to the memory of the name of Phoebe Ridgway he could have had no idea that it would be nothing more than a huge mausoleum for himself and his eccentric madame and a cold storage house for the classics and the relics of the Library Company. With the exception of the Boston Free Library in Copley Square, there is no building which is superior to it in this country as a library edifice. Its Grecian outlines, its vast spaces, its imposing proportions and its facilities, when properly utilized, for a multitude of students and readers, make it in beauty and in utility a building of uncommon importance. Yet I will venture to say that not one in twenty of the readers of this column has ever been moved to feel enough interest in it to pass even its threshold.

* * * *

I have been particularly impelled to make these remarks after reading an announcement this morning that a meeting will be held this evening in Horticultural Hall on behalf of the "Free Library movement." It seems, for instance, almost like a travesty to ask the city to vote a million dollars for a Free Library, when Dr. Rush's executor spent as much on the building which now lies isolated and all but neglected except by a handful of book worms and an occasional literary pilgrim. It was a misfortune to the people of Philadelphia that after fighting Henry J. Williams up to the Supreme Court on the ground that Dr. Rush never intended that his executor should locate the library in that part of the city, the Library Company did not adhere to its original purpose not to accept the bequest under such a condition. In that event Dr. Rush had provided that a free library should be established with his money. This was upward of thirty years ago, and had the doctor been able to foresee what has since happened, there is little room for doubting that he would have founded a library absolutely for the uses of the people. It is true that the doctor was eccentric, but no one who has read his will can suppose that he ever thought that Phoebe Ridgway's fortune would be applied simply to the erection of an elegant but lonely literary freight station.

* * * *

The Library Company reveres the memory of Franklin as its founder, but what would Franklin, with his practical sagacity, think of the uses, or rather non-uses, of this great building on Broad street on the part of his literary descendants? Nowhere else in Philadelphia will you find any edifice of a public or semi-public character which is so cheerless and unattractive in its atmosphere or so little devoted to its primary purpose as a channel of public education. Few books are kept there excepting those which have an interest to the antiquarian, the curio expert or the student of the classics. When the librar[illegible] was opened in 1878 almost the very fi[illegible] purchase made was that of a lot of Latin antiques, which would not be consulted once in a year by visitors. All the tomes that were buried in the dust of the upper shelves of the old Fifth street building have been laid away here like a collection of literary mummies. There are times, if I may believe some of my informants, who have dropped in with their grievances, when the custodians of the books have been unable to tell with exactness what they really have in their possession when there has been occasion to have access to them. I have also been told, although I hope that this is not true—for it was not true in even Lloyd P. Smith's day, or when George Abbett was his assistant—that the need of accommodating a scholar with the treasures of the shelves is made proportionate to the price and quality of his raiment. But of this I have no doubt whatever, and that is that ninety-nine out of every hundred men and women who pass this Greek temple on their way up and down Broad street feel instinctively that they are not wanted there or that if they should venture in they would be frozen out.

* * * *

Now all this may be legally or technically in compliance with the letter of Dr. Rush's will. But I am yet to be convinced that it is in accord with the spirit and true meaning of his wishes or that the policy which governs the Ridgway Library is not an evasion or violation of his testament. The Library Company may, and probably does, contend that it is all the fault of Williams, that obstinate Williams, in insisting on the construction of the library in the downtown region; but after this had been done and the company had accepted the bequest, it should

have made some aempt equi
large the field of efulness f
way branch. It ws once s
place was "remote or "inacc
in point of time it s fully on
the City Hall than it was
ago in the palmy days of th
and, perhaps, even nearer in
eral proximity to the curr
activity that have developed
lower Broad stree Henry
may have been mo e stubbor
and yet the stead ly better
whole downtown section
street, especially si nce M
claimed the street b y mak
paved highway in A Americ
shows that William s may
glimpses of the poss ibilities

* *

It seems to me tha t if the
gressive men and w omen fro
England and Weste rn libra s pro-
taken down to the " Ridgwa New
asked candidly wha t the ould be
$1,000,000 mausoleum th this
be such as would se t might
Library Company to s of the
and means of utilizin of the ways
them imagine what stitution. L
he were e now to ash might as
Enoch t did in pend his more he
was e, and as Baltimore, Pepper
show George
Ca done here; and as Andrew
ing in Allegheny. Is it too
me that Dr. Rush had in
c-spirited vew that his
uld be usel, as Enoch
in Baltinore, for the
ightenment of the com-
broader scale than the
pany was doing in 1869 on
t, or than it is now doing on
street?

* * * *

What is there to be done for making one of the finest library buildings in the world something more than a temple of silence, dust and the book worm?

PENN

EVEND

Seidl Talks of Wagner

One of the most interesting feature
the present opera season at Covent
den is the reappearance of Herr
Seidl, who is undoubtedly one of
conductors in the world
many years the
reat Wagner
pres

---

volved, and sesquipedalian style; and visa versa.

"If you say that it is still a matter of chance whether a book survives or not," said Dr. Richardson in conclusion, "I say that it is only chance in the same sense that it is in the case of plants and animals."

ON INDEXING.

The next paper was by William I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, on "Index Prospects and Possibilities." In the course of his remarks he referred, with words of the highest praise, to the valuable indexes of trade journals which he had found at the Philadelphia Commercial Museums. He also spoke in equally laudatory terms of an Index of Portraits by Mr. Samuels, of the Philadelphia Library, which he had gotten up without compensation, and which has been placed under charge of Mr. Lane, of the Boston Museum.

Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institu

ELPHIA RECORD. THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 24, 1897—TEN PAGES.

IN THE RIDGWAY LIBRARY.

The "Record" Girl Delves Into Old Volumes and Rare Manuscripts.

HILE the American Library Association is here special attention must be called to the Ridgway Library, a branch of the Library of Philadelphia, frequently called the Rush Library, because the bequest of Dr. Rush founded and supports it. His executor, Mr. Williams, is responsible for its location, though he claimed it was the wish of Dr. Rush. Besides, whole squares on Broad street are scarce, and that was necessary to make a fine architectural show. The exterior is Doric, and is supposedly not in the middle of the square because in time it may become a quadrangle.

* * * *

There are 130,000 volumes, and it is a free library to visitors, though a nominal sum is charged for taking books out. The Loganian Library is absolutely free. Do you know about that? Well, William Logan, who, by the way, was a friend of William Penn, had the best library of his time, some 4000 volumes, and desired to give it to the city; his intention was carried out by his heirs afterward. It fell into the hands of the Library Company of Philadelphia, which originally stood opposite Independence Square, on Sixth street. A picture shows it to be a modest little one-story brick building, with four windows and one door in front. The next step was a more pretentious building; it was occupied until 15 years ago. It was where the Drexel Building now stands.

* * * *

You may be interested to know that in 1782 one Ambrose Searle, in the English service, in writing home, said there were "two libraries in town which contained the writing of the lowest authors, even down to novels and romances." Another good bit concerns the bust of Minerva, heroic size, which stood behind the Speaker's chair of the first Congress. A colored man, on being told it was the goddess of wisdom, asked: "Was she really as big as that?" Our delightfully kind informant added that had the Congress in its flight not left the goddess of wisdom behind the tariff legislation would never have existed.

* * * *

The great memorial room contains many beautiful articles that were in the home of Dr. Rush, which is now the Aldine. The splendid carved mantel in log oak, the table in rosewood, statuary, vases, pictures and his library, as well as his father's, largely upon matters medical, architectural and musical.

* * * *

The library, which was the outcome of the Junto Club, is scattered amid the other books. Franklin in his autobiography says that not over 50 persons, mostly young tradesmen, were willing to lay down 40 shillings each and 10 shillings a year. He also said (1730) there wasn't a good bookseller's shop south of Boston.

* * * *

A most interesting relic is an Egyptian document of sale or lease, written by a priest about the end of the sixth century, A. D., on papyrus, in Coptic, with a Greek note. Can you fancy the ancient owner explaining away every disadvantage and admitting just how it hurt him to part with the place?

* * * *

The biggest book is a Latin antiphany, evidently the work of blacksmith and carpenter combined. In strong hands it would be terribly convincing.

* * * *

A gorgeous Book of Hours in gilt parchment is as beautiful in lettering as in illustration. The owner was an officer of the Regent of France during the minority of Louis XV, one learns on a fly-leaf, and a gay boy, to judge by the jottings.

* * * *

The Burmese Book of Charms is alive with red and blue dragons, love philters, guides to riches and protection from danger. Too bad they're so scarce.

* * * *

There's the Book of Esther, too, a megillah on vellum, and a tenth century "Homilies of Chrysostom," a sort of Greek which every learned librarian in town is invited to tackle.

WORTH JOURNEYING TO SEE.

price, 18c.
CHILDREN'S
long sleeves
INFANTS' H
black, 12
Our r
every sta
CO
Fo
49, 5
Set Wi
The l
Jewe

BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JULY

8, 1897.

MMER RESORT IN TOWN

ne Rush Library is Cool, Quiet and Sequestered.

The Rush Library, at Christian and Broad sts., is to be strongly recommended as a summer resort. There is no danger of being caught in a crush, as a "Bulletin" reporter spent an entire afternoon there without seeing a soul except the librarian.

Ice water is kept on tap, there are no flies, the librarian is not a boisterous man. In fact, the conditions are most favorable for a quiet nap in a chair. If one desires to read, there are scores of Latin, Greek, French, Arabic and Egyptian volumes to select from.

There are books of travel not more than fifty or a hundred years old. Th young are amply provided for as ther any number of publications upon and religious life especially intend the ung by the authors.

oung women can find plenty to interest improve their minds and morals. Such ks as Hannah More's "Advice to Young es" is recommended, also Mrs. Kane's nments Upon Female Characters of the Bible." The work of a learned man, written "For Young Ladies About to Enter Polite Society," should not be overlooked. "The Art of Treading the Stage," published in 1810, by a Boston elocution teacher, is not to be sneezed at. There are no works of fiction in the library, but the "[illegible]clopaedia Britannica" is liked for su[illegible] reading by some persons.

It seems too bad that so magnificent a building should be of so little benefit to the public.

Why do they not put in a soda fountain and sell ice cream and soft drinks?

A brass band in one of the alcoves would brighten things up a bit. A merry-go-round, roller skates and an electric fountain, would be harmless attractions that would draw people that never heard of the $1,000,000 library. It would scare the book worms and scatter the dust that has settled upon the volumes, yellow and musty with age.

On a lively day in winter not more than twenty-five persons visit this library. In summer it is not probable that more than half a dozen readers drop in daily. It is a sepulchre. The librarian a hushed whisper. It is be- would expire with excitement nany as four people be in the nce.

SUZETTE.

RIDGEWAY LIBRARY OPEN; COAL SUPPLY OBTAINED

Only Institution in City, Says Custodian, That Could Not Get Fuel

The Ridgeway Library reopened yesterday, after being closed for three months because coal could not be obtained to heat it. Francis A. Lewis, then Fuel Administrator for Philadelphia, listed it as a non-essential, according to Librarian George Maurice Abbott, who said that of all the individuals and institutions possessing the price, this was the only one that did not get fuel.

Many persons who had been waiting anxiously for its reopening made good use of the occasion to institute historical and geological researches, a big field for which is offered by the Library's collection, according to Bunford Samuel, the Assistant Librarian. There is also a manuscript biography of John Fitch, written by himself; autographs of Paul Jones; a piece of the flag, about which the Star Spangled Banner was written, and a bust of Minerva that stood behind the Speaker's chair in Congress when that body met in the old State House, Fifth and Chestnut streets. There is also a Homilye of Chrysoston written in Greek in the Tenth Century.

"The daily attendance here is, of course, not very great," said Mr. Samuel. "But when the people come here they do not rush in to ask the latest novel and then take it and rush out again. They come to study and educate themselves, and very often remain for hours."

Mr. Samuel has been connected with the Library since it first opened in 1878.

The Nation. [Vol. 64, No. 1658 April 8, 1897]

ceded it, few will be inclined to deny. The Granger craze affected railroads; the greenback and inflation and silver crazes affected the currency and the national honor; the Jingo craze endangered peace; but this one threatens the whole economic fabric, and, what is more, it is a double craze: it produces legislation involving in confusion everything in the States, and at the same time leads Congress to legislate on the same subjects. To judge by experience, the political class will not give it up until they find out that it is not a genuine political movement, but a craze. But this we cannot teach them by playing into their hands as we have been doing hitherto. It is a fortunate circumstance that among the contracts affected by the anti-Trust decision may be even those of newspapers.

FICTION-FIENDS.

The action of the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny, Pa., in excluding certain writers of fiction from its shelves excited so much interest and discussion that the librarian, Mr. W. M. Stevenson, has thought it well to explain the matter. This he does in the March *Library Journal.* The novels in question were not so much excluded as refused renewal when read to tatters. Nor was the reason assigned that the stories were immoral; they were simply silly, slovenly, not strictly literature at all. Some of the novels which the library, under this ruling, decided not to replace when worn out were the works of Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Southworth, A. C. Gunter, and E. P. Roe. The local press took the affair very hard, especially the laying of audacious hands on the "native author named Roe": did the librarian mean to give the lie to Matthew Arnold? And how could Mr. Stevenson be sure that he got all the silly novels out? He frankly confessed that he could not. Some were still on the shelves, but solely for the reason that they were made of "a little better paper"; as soon as they are worn out they, too, will be excluded.

It might be argued that this is really to make wood-pulp, not literary quality, the standard. But we are not interested in this question, nor in other aspects of the Carnegie Free Library's action, so much as in some of the incidental observations made by Mr. Stevenson on the habits of the fiction-ridden classes. One of his discoveries was that of a sort of free-for all competition among school-children to see who could read the most novels in a given time. One heroic boy averaged a volume a day of Alger, "Optic," and the like, for several weeks running. "A prominent educator" disapproved of this, which is not strange. That is the way in which "fiction-fiends," as Mr. Stevenson suggestively calls them, are made—not born. His study of them in their native haunts for six successive years leads him to deny a theory advanced by "librarians of standing," and, we may add, by others. This is the theory that devotees of Mrs. Holmes and E. P. Roe will "gradually rise to something better." Librarian Stevenson's experience is that this is absolutely false. He has "never yet discovered a case of improvement. Once the habit is formed, it seems as difficult to throw off as the opium habit."

No one would be surprised at this, we imagine, were it not for the lingering power of two respectable fallacies. One is that reading in itself is a virtue. Old-fashioned parents have been known to say complacently that if their boy is reading he surely can be taking no harm; the acuter moderns are often as much alarmed at absorbed reading, as they are at preternatural quiet, on the part of their children. There is a presumption of mischief on foot in either case. Something, after all, depends on the thing read. But what of all the great men who have confessed to a youth of reckless indulgence in novel-reading? Was not Thackeray "a lazy, idle boy" who delighted in 'Thaddeus of Warsaw'? That is the second fallacy. Genius may disport itself for a time in cheap and silly reading, but that scarcely proves that cheap and silly fiction breeds genius. The exuberant and expanding power of a great talent may have its fling with books that are no books and literature that is meretricious; but the fact that it succeeds in escaping unscathed is no evidence that the regimen is just the thing to foster talent and taste. Temporary loitering by future great men among foolish books is a very different thing from the prolonged, the satisfied, the sottish reading of inane novels by the true fiction-fiends.

Why they should be thought likely to free themselves from the lengthening chain which they drag at each new story, it is hard to see, when one thinks of it. Nowhere else is immersion in the dull, the inferior, the vulgar, thought of as harmless, much less as a necessary preparation for appreciating the bright, the superior, the elevated. If we saw a child smearing the walls of his nursery with staring reds and yellows from his paint-box, we should not say, "Let be, there is a fine artistic taste in the making." But, under the influence of the respectable superstitions already mentioned, parents contentedly watch their children drenching and drowning their minds in ill-written books, as if this were the predestined way to form a good literary taste. The examples of cultivated and illustrious men who became cultivated and illustrious in spite of similar youthful indulgences, are urged in excuse, with as much solemnity, and with about as much relevancy, as the good woman displayed who announced that her son was to be a philanthropist, as she had observed that philanthropists were generally wealthy.

Nobody can stop the reading of fiction (if anybody wants to), but we can do something to prevent the nourishing of fiction-fiends. Everywhere fiction furnishes the great bulk of popular reading. The public library in Salem, Mass., with all the noble literary traditions of that town, reports 84 per cent. as the proportion of fiction circulated last year. In Carnegie Free Library, situated, as Mr. Stevenson points out, "in the heart of Presbyterianism," in what is largely a residence city, with a university, three theological seminaries, and excellent public and private schools, the percentage of fiction circulated is still higher—90 per cent., in fact. Not to stop novel-reading, but to stop indiscriminate novel-reading, is the thing to aim at. It is unfortunately true that there are thousands of readers to whom a novel is a novel, and one is as good as another. They do not crave the vicious or the suggestive in fiction—they scarcely recognize those or any other qualities when they meet them—but they love to surrender themselves in complete vacuity to any kind of a tale that will keep them from thinking. The thing they need to be saved from is their dead monotony of indifference. By a blow on the head, if necessary, they must be given the idea that one novel, one piece of writing, is better than another. They may have to take it on authority at first, and find out the reasons why later. Therefore we think it highly desirable that public libraries should begin giving them this blow on the head. It might start obscure but, in the end, salutary trains of thought in their minds if all libraries were to follow the example of the Carnegie Free Library, and say to them, "No, madam (or sir), we have not the immortal works of Fleming or Clay or Southworth, but we can give you Scott or Hawthorne or Thackeray."

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC READING ROOMS OPEN ON SUNDAYS (Miss X.)

We regret proclaiming it from the housetops, but truth will out:—the following are the only library reading rooms open to the public on Sundays in this city, so far as we know; and we would be glad of any additions that our readers could make to this scanty list:

Mercantile Library, So. Tenth below Market. Open Sundays from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.
Library Company of Philadelphia, Ben Franklin's original library, N. W. corner Juniper and Locust sts. Open Sundays from 1 to 5 P. M.
Christian Science Reading Rooms, 1530 Chestnut st., 70 W. Chelten ave., and 1600 Columbia ave. Open Sundays from 2 P. M. to 5.
Keneseth Israel Library, Broad above Columbia. Open on Sundays from 11 A. M. to 5 P. M.

Not one of the many branches of the Free Library System of Philadelphia is open either on Sundays or on legal holidays.

That large libraries should be closed on one day out of seven and on general holidays for such services as entail the labor of their entire staff appeals to every one's sense of fair play and elementary justice; but the public mind fails to grasp what insurmountable difficulties apparently stand in the way of permitting large numbers of studiously-inclined people not indeed to borrow books but merely to use the libraries for reading purposes on the very day when they have an opportunity—perhaps the only opportunity—of doing so throughout the whole week.

MINER'S COMPENSATION. (C. E. D.)

SOMETHING has been said lately about the interest shown by patrons of American public libraries in books that many persons think are quite out of date, and now comes a similar report from one of the leading American universities. Following an annual custom, the graduating class at Princeton has been asked its individual preferences in literature, and the three favorite novels of the collegians go on record as being "A Tale of Two Cities," "Ivanhoe," and "The Three Musketeers." Literary criticism has not ranked either "Ivanhoe" or "A Tale of Two Cities" as the best work of Scott or Dickens, and Robert Louis Stevenson read the adventures of Porthos, Athos, Aramis, and D'Artagnan more times in the "Vicomte de Bragelonne" than in the "Trois Mousquetaires"; but it would be difficult to name three novels, past or present, of more generally engrossing interest than the selections of the Princeton senior class.

PUBLIC LEDGER—PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY MORNING,

PRECEDENT OF YEARS TRIFLE TO MUMMERS; 1500 TO FEATURE VICTORY LINE TOMORROW

The picture shows Mrs. Walter J. Freeman, chairman of the South Philadelphia district, with her committee chairmen, grouped on the steps of the Ridgway Library. Left to right—Bottom row, Mrs. Freeman, Miss Mary M. Barr, Mrs. Andrew F. Lippi, Mrs. Martin Daly; second row, Mrs. Harry C. Ransley, Mrs. E. Bowman Leaf, Mrs. Frank B. Stockley, Mrs. Frank W. Buhler, Mrs. L. Webster Fox; third row, Mrs. Thomas S. Boyle, Mrs. Albert M. Greenfield, Mrs. Charles E. Noblit, Mrs. Richard Mills Pearce, Mrs. Owen J. Roberts, Mrs. J. Hector McNeal; fourth row, Mrs. M. V. Kerns, Mrs. C. A. Dimon, Mrs. B. M. Beyers

---

Samuel, Bamford

note of in Boston Athen [illegible]

Life of Thos. Smith

RIDGWAY LIBRAR NEGLECTED SHRI

Historic Treasure House, Know All Over World, Has Average o Only 12 Visitors Daily

WAS PHYSICIAN'S LEGACY

It is an old saying that Philadelphians never vis Independence Hall, Franklin's Tomb, many other interesting spots in the home town until some visitor comes re and demands to be shown around.

There is one sp here, however, known in nearly ev corner of the world by savants, whic even the visitor from "back-home" rar asks to be taken to, despite the fa it is one of the most attractive buil gs in Philadelphia. Worse than that is a building few Philadelphians even ow exist and if they do they wonder w It is the Ridgway Library, on Broad st. just north of Washington av.

Regal in its dignity and aloofness, it is placed in the centre of a soft expanse of lawn, at this season just beginning to show the sprigs of green that herald spring. Gray and massive, it looks calmly down on the hurried traffic of that section and listens impassively to the shriek of the freight engine whistles in the noisy railroad yard nearby.

Wonderful as is its architectural beauty and its romantic story, its contents are more marvelous still. Thousands of dusty tomes are treasured there and historians have come from far to delve into the mines of information the library contains.

The almost wierd impossibility is that the daily local visitors average twelve. And this despite the fact that it is a branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

The neglect of the institution is due to several causes. One, as expressed by the white-bearded old gentleman who rules his lonely world, is that "there are no jazz books here." The other is that its geographical situation is such that few will walk the necessary blocks to browse among the treasures there.

Whatever the reason may be, it is a fact that less than twelve people a day enter the building. The banner day was some years ago when 450 people came into the institution in one forenoon. There was a circus parade on Broad st., and the windows of the Ridgway Library were the best vantage spots from which to view the elephants.

The Ridgway Library has a soft romance that does appeal to many from other parts of the country who have never seen it. Of the twelve daily visitors, over half are from foreign countries or from American cities far from Philadelphia. They have heard its story, if Philadelphians have not, and most of them have some appreciation of the books, paintings, maps, and historical objects which make it one of the most interesting museums in the city.

Dr. James Rush, a wealthy and eccentric physician at his death in 1896 bequeathed over half of his two million dollar fortune to the erection of this building. A tremendous sum in those days, the million dollars, or more, made it possible to erect a structure architecturally perfect and to put it in a landscape setting worthy of the jewel.

Dr. Rush willed that the building be named after his wife Phoebe Ann Ridgway and that it should be a branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Dr. Rush felt certain Philadelphia would build out south. When the

---

Library, Ridgway
2. Evng. Bulletin. Mch. 22, 1922
Press, Oct. 13, 1907
Ledger, Nov. 3, 1907

ittle Journeys Around Philadelphia

BY GEORGE BARTON.

he Ridgway Library

F you want to visit one of the most unique libraries in the world stroll down Broad st. some afternoon and go into the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library. It occupies the entire block between Christian and Carpenter sts. and 13th and Broad sts. It is an imposing structure, and ooking at its granite walls one might magine it to be very old. As a matter of act it was only completed in 1877, and n consequence has been in existence for ess than a half century. The building s of the Doric style of architecture and nvariably attracts the attention of the tranger in Philadelphia.

The residents of the city are strangers to this remarkable institution. It s usually deserted and going into its ortals one has the sensation of enter- ng a vault. The books themselves are ld and musty. The volumes are in ases which are usually locked, but one nly has to state his wants to the li- rarian to recieve intelligent and courte- us attention. There are something ke 400,000 books of one kind or anoth- on its shelves and many are rare and luable. Its collection of newspaper les is the best in Philadelphia, if not the Unites States, with the possible ception of the Congressional Library Washington. There are many pleas- t and quiet alcoves where the reader d the student may sit undisturbed.

Why then is it so comparatively un- own and so poorly patronized? The swer is it is almost exclusively a ref- ence library. It does not deal in tion. But if you want some instruc- e tome or some work dealing with arts and sciences you will be almost tain to get it in this dignified and luable institution.

Dr. James Rus one of the leading iladelphians of the older days, be- eathed the money by which the build- g came into being. The will under ich the building was erected was the use of much litigation. It contained nditions which puzzled the Philadel- ia lawyers of the old era. One of the uses concerned the site. The direc- s of the Philadelphia Library Com- ny—or the Library Company of Phila- phia, felt that it was too remote for ir purposes. But the executor of the l proceeded to carry out its provi- ns almost as soon as the document been probated. The directors filed ill in equity on the ground "that it s too far distant from the homes of majority of the members of the old ary and therefore unsuitable for its pose." Just imagine that objection locality not more than nine or ten ks from the present City Hall. The was dismissed by the courts and erection of the building continued.

hed for Mrs. Rush

t was called the Ridgway Library in nor of Mrs. Rush who was one of the idgways of New Jersey. Dr. Rush as regarded as a very eccentric man, t this reputation was gained largely om the fact that he was a bookish n—a sort of recluse. He shut him- f off from society and devoted most his time to reading and writing. He s a son of Dr. Benjamin Rush and himself a physician of distinction.

He wrote a number of books, most of them on unusual subjects. He was the author of "Hamlet, A Dramatic Prelude," which discussed some of the phases of the life and philosophy of the moody Dane. This led some of the cynics of the day to declare Dr. Rush himself was a sort of Hamlet, who was continually brooding over the causes which brought him into this unsatisfactory world. He wrote many literary and medical tracts and found more pleasure in doing so than his contemporaries did in going to the theatre and the opera.

The memorial apartment of the library contains the household furniture, the library, the paintings and the personal effects of the founder. The testator expressly provided in his will that these things should not be exposed to "vulgar curiosity." But in other parts of the building there are rare specimens of antique furniture which may be viewed by the public. In one section we shall see twenty-five tables of a uniform size, which Mrs. Rush was in the habit of placing in a long row to accommodate the guests at the famous banquets and dinner parties given at her really palatial mansion. A score of fine mirrors which once decorated the Rush home now are utilized to embellish the library A plain marble slab covers all that remains of Dr. Rush and his wife. It is in a crypt on the eastern side of the building. The light coming through a stained glass window reveals the following inscription:

Sacred
to the memories of
Mrs. Phoebe Ann Rush
daughter of
Jacob and Rebecca Ridgway
and wife of
James Rush, M. D.
born December 3d. A. D. 1799
died October 23d. A. D. 1857
and of
James Rush, M. D.
third son of
Dr. Benjamin and Julia (Stockton)
Rush
born March 15th, A. D. 1786
died March 26th, A. D. 1869

Watson tells us that on the Broad street front of the Rush building grounds a very old buttonwood tree stood for many years. The site was occupied as a lumber yard, and in the centre stood an old-fashioned two-story double house, fast going into decay. In its earlier days it was a country seat. Just imagine a site in the heart the present city being considered "in the country." There were great doings there after the War of 1812. The First City Troop, then commanded by Captain Ross, assembled in front of this estate to be mustered out of the service, and afterwards marched into the enclosure to get their pay. There was much cheering and many festivities to mark return of these popular military men, who are still very much in evidence—or rather their successors are

The Parent Library

Incidentally the parent library purchased the site at Juniper and Locust sts. and erected the present fine building. It is not as large as the branch at Broad and Christian, but it is one of the best libraries in America. The Locust street building contains some of the oldest and rarest boks in existence. One of these is Pliny's Natural History which was printed in 1476 by Jensen, the second printer in Venice. It contains a precious copy of "The Imitation of Christ," by Thomas a' Kempis, published in Venice in 1486. There you will also find the first volume of the earliest newspaper published in Pennsylvania. It is Bradford's "American Mercury" for 1719. Near by is the first volume of Benjamin Franklin's "Pennsylvania Gazette" for 1728. Those who would know something of the Philadelphia of nearly two centuries ago will find these relics highly interesting.

There are many drawings and paintings of the old houses and buildings of Philadelphia. Some of these were donated to the library by John Fanning Watson, the annalist to whose industry and enthusiasm we owe much of our knowledge of the way in which our forefathers lived. Others came from Charles A. Poulsson, the son of Zachariah, the librarian, who was a diligent collector of the odds and ends of local history. Next to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Library and the Ridgway branch contain more material relating to our early history than is to be found anywhere in Pennsylvania.

Benjamin Franklin who was the originator of so many important things in this city was the father of what is now known as the Library Company of Philadelphia. He thus tells of it in the story of his life:

"About this time (1730) our club meeting, not at a tavern, but in a little room of Mr. Grace's, set apart for that purpose, a proposition was made by me, that since our books were often referred to in our disquisitions, it might be convenient for us to have them together when we met, that they might be consulted; and by thus clubbing our books in a common library we should each of us have the advantage of ing the books of all the other mer which would be nearly as beneficial as of each owned the whole. It was liked and agreed to, and we filled one end of the room with such books as we could best spare. The number was not so great as we expected, and though they had been of great use, the collection, after a year was separated and each took his books home again.

"And now I set on foot on my first project of a public nature, that of a subscription library. I drew up the proposals, got them put into form by our great scrivener Brockden and by the help of my friends in the Junto, procured fifty subscribers of forty shillings each to begin with and ten shillings a year for the fifty years, the term our library was to continue. We afterwards obtained a charter, the company being increased to one hundred. This was the mother of all the North American subscription libraries, now so numerous."

It is not surprising that a statue of rare old Ben Franklin should occupy a niche in front of the library building. This was procured by William Bingham at the request of the statue committee after they had "understood that Dr. Franklin would approve of a gown for his dress and a Roman head." Mr. Bingham sent the order for the work of art to Italy, accompanied by a bust belonging to the Pennsylvania Hospital and a drawing of the figure. The chairman in his report says: "The statue is, at length, arrived, and I have the honor of c lading. If tions of m ioned out o and is exc Stile, and i of the distin tended to re

We are t 500 guineas and surely was worth a this fashion.

Tomorrow

L.C.P.
article answering charges which
appeared in Phila. Gazette.
Amer. Daily Advertiser May 1, 1820
2d page

Episode in Collins's Man & Wife " "
Grandcourt (in D. Deronda) – Labouchere
Chambers' Journal Dec 1913 – Nov. 1914
(7th s. v. 4) p 313-314
Sir Geo. Lewis = in Edmund Yates's
Kissing the Rod " "

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent. American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury and prosecution. Before such a body Dr. McAndrew hasn't the slightest chance of a fair hearing.

A JOKE THAT FAILED.

A child jumps with joy when a gift is offered, but a librarian dances with rage. After the boy has grown up to be the guardian of books or the curator of other treasures, he learns that gifts coming free of restrictions are few. Most donors make at least one stipulation—the gift must be known by the giver's name. Other conditions range from the fantastic to the impossible. Having had some years of experience with the curious "strings" on gifts to the New York Public Library, EDMUND PEARSON, retiring editor of Publications, attached a few to his gift of thirty books.

He began with that familiar deprecation which precedes the most extravagant conditions—"I expect no special recognition of the gift." Guardians of public valuables in museums know what follows. The donor, his generosity exceeded only by his modesty, would like to have his collection housed in a separate wing, specially constructed of the finest marble, with a statue of himself set in front, mounted on a pedestal on which his name is carved in perfect imitation of his own handwriting. Mr. PEARSON'S sardonic jest did not surpass the absurdity of some conditions actually made. He "only" required that his books should be catalogued on gold-edged cards, decorated with a special bookplate bearing his picture, kept in a room by themselves, and handled by caretakers wearing full evening dress. And he was supposed to be serious!

There was a Frenchman who, at the age of about 65, gave property worth over a million dollars to Columbia University on condition that an annuity be paid him from the fund for the rest of his life. The trustees were pleased for the first few years, but after the old gentleman had collected his $60,000 annually for twenty-nine years they were keenly aware of the qualifying [illegible]. Conditions may easily be ksome that the gift is not

---

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea
nd an aura of hearty
ched the writer of
known and unkno
ve all been welcome
ch inspired them
ted. It *would*
ach one *indivi*
impossible.
his opportu
ing, tha
lumn,
YE

---

it obtained success.

. . . . . The place of librarian to the Emperor of the French recently became vacant, by the death of the person filling it. During two days, no less than four hundred applications were sent in for it. The situation is said to be worth eight or nine thousand francs, and is probably all but a sinecure, as it has been suppressed. It was the only way of preventing jealousies. No one being preferred, the whole four hundred are, of course, equa[illegible] dissatisfied.

Do not flatter yourself that friendship

Girard's Talk of the Day

ly sca[illegible] instances they are poorly housed and where but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Institute, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Academy of Fine Arts, the Pennsylvania Museum, and the Museum of Natural Science.

Years ago Governor Pennypacker said the treasures in the Historical Society were worth $6,000,000. At current prices for such things $15,000,000 would be nearer the true figure.

Fortunately these treasures are in a modern, fireproof and beautiful building in the heart of the city.

It is highly desirable that such treasures be in places where the public may easily find them without the aid of Sherlock Holmes.

* * * *

I AM wondering if Benjamin West's great painting "Healing the Sick" will always remain in the Pennsylvania Hospital?

West was Pennsylvania's foremost artist of all time. That canvas was painted by request for the Pennsylvania Hospital.

It was the sensation of the day when it was publicly exhibited here and a fee charged to see it.

But I suppose that were this remarkable painting to be exhibited in the new Museum of Art, which 1,000,000 people will enter the first year it would yield twenty times the joy it can now produce in its old hospital home.

Not one in a thousand Philadelphians know of its existence there, since rare works of art are not what folks go to hospitals to find.

* * * *

VERY soon Franklin Institute treasures will be in a grand new home.

Not long ago the ancient Philadelphia Library, first public library in America, sold for about $50,000 one of its Gilbert Stuart treasures. That was Philadelphia's loss.

Well, folks do not as a rule go into libraries seeking valuable art treasures. Books are what they want—books to read and not books to admire for their money value or as first edition rarities.

I except, of course, the Historical Society's library, which is what it is because of its literary treasures, which cannot in many instances be duplicated anywhere else.

But after the Museum of Art is opened the public will as naturally seek there all the high-lights in artistic work as politicians will seek Mayor Harry A. Mackey for jobs.

* * * *

HIDING that incomparable collec-

The Disadvantage of Ridgway Library

Sir: I note the article "Ridgway's Rare Values," by Burton Alva Konkle, which seems to maintain that the imposing structure on S. Broad st. is a storehouse of rare knowledge, a source of reference equalled by few and surpassed by none. This assertion I will not venture to contradict, except as to one instance. All the material mentioned by Mr. Konkle, and much more beside, may be safely buried in the archives and vaults of the Ridgway Library, but like the treasures in King Tut's tomb, it is of no possible benefit to the public until placed where the public can come in contact with the advantages to be derived therefrom.

A collection of books, be it ever so rare, learned and valuable, is of no use to the general public if locked up at the very times when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

1 LEUVEN 1
27
IV
15-16
1928
LOUVAIN

Mr. Samuel Goforth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia
Broad and Christian Sts.
Philadelphia, Penna

U. S. A.

Ridgway's Rare Values

TO the Editor of The Bulletin: For many years I have read your Men and Things column with such pleasure and profit, that I read your comments on Ridgway Library in last Friday's issue with considerable disappointment.

Personally I have not inherited any of the old feuds of Philadelphia, so that this great institution is viewed by me for what it is, rather than from the viewpoint of the past. Whether the press of Philadelphia gives way to that kind of a "dead hand" influence or not, I do not know, but for thirty years I have seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the only scholarly, continuously current and cosmopolitan library on this continent, current in the best scholarship, through the Loganian part, practically continuously since Cromwell's time. There is no such rare institution on this continent; and there never will be. It is like a California redwood; it has grown; money cannot create such a collection now.

The Philadelphia Library Company is the Ridgway, where all non-current matters go, with the Juniper-Locust building as its uptown current office, so to speak. It is the greatest reservoir of the widest and profoundest scholarship in Philadelphia, certainly, if not in the United States. It is more nearly the British Museum, Biblioteque Nationale or Vatican Library for the United States than any other in the whole land. No broad or profound scholar in research comes to Philadelphia and omits Ridgway, or, if you please, the Philadelphia Library Company. Numbers! What has numbers to do with such an Institution? The Free Library is primarily designed for numbers; and nobly is it answering its main design; but must we sneer at a University because it isn't a Normal School; or be patronizing to a Johns Hopkins because it isn't a fresh water "University?" Isn't such an attitude nothing but mere ignorance?

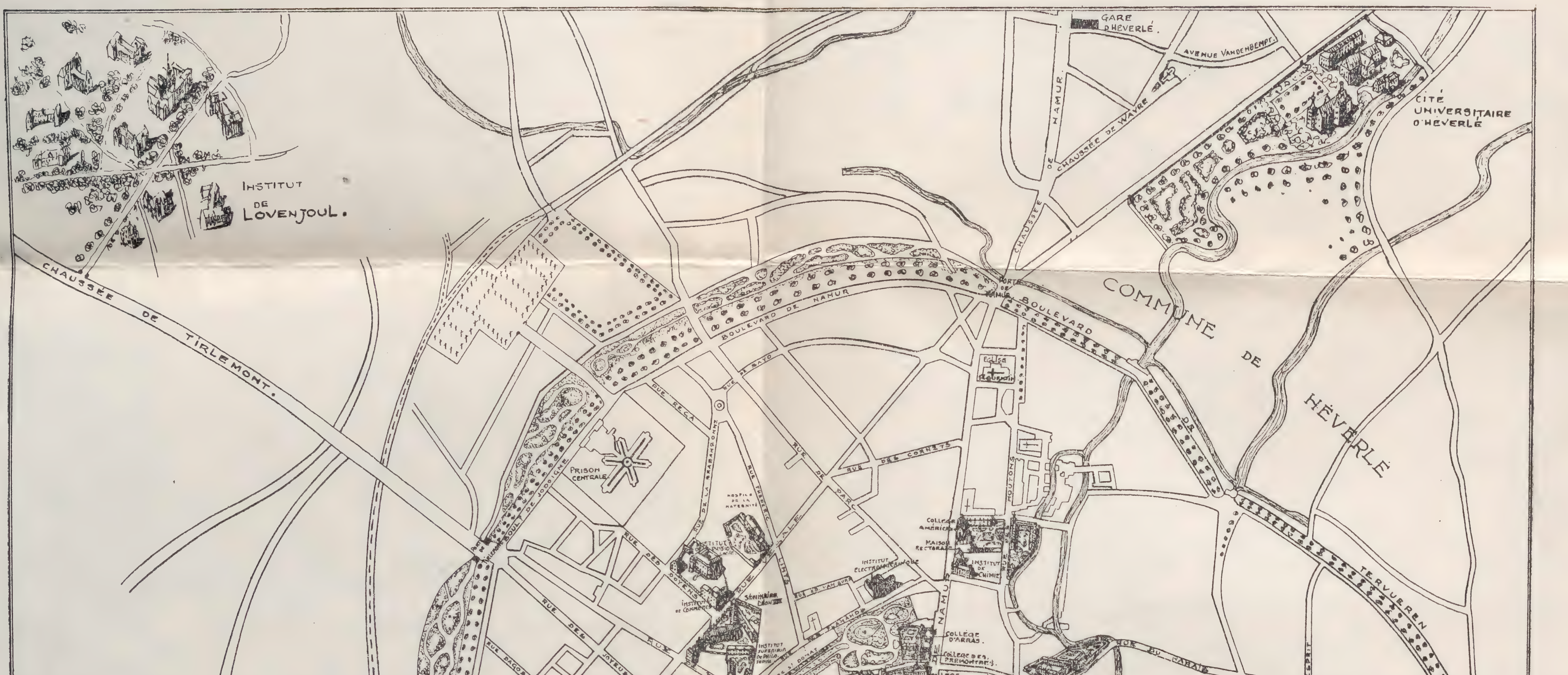
I know little about Dr. James Rush, and care less, if knowledge of him and his will has such unfortunate influence upon the mind that it can distort a true conception of so great an institution. But I do know the scholarship of James Logan—probably the greatest in the American colonies in his day; and his and his father's great classical libraries carry this and the northern library at Locust far back of 1731 when Franklin and his coterie founded it. A library is like its maker: narrow, cosmopolitan, profound, scholarly, popular, technical, cultural, scientific and so on. This library is not merely a James Rush collection, even if he were the highest type of scholar; it is far more the collection of the Franklin "Junto" and their successors to this day, and that of James Logan. Dr. Rush must have been a very high type of man to have identified himself with such groups and appreciated them enough to make them his executors.

It has been my lot to spend most of my years in Philadelphia libraries; and I have come to know each as an individual personality. The old Philadelphia Library Company, including Ridgway, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent. American platform. The Mayor has just or



Gare d'Héverlé
Avenue Vandenbempt
Cité Universitaire d'Héverlé
Institut de Lovenjoul
Chaussée de Tirlemont
Chaussée de Namur
Chaussée de Wavre
Boulevard de Namur
Commune de Héverlé
Prison Centrale
Rue des Cornets
Collège Américain
Maison Rectorale
Institut Electrotechnique
Collège d'Arras
Collège des Prémontrés
Collège du Pape
Collège Juste Lipse
École d'Agriculture et de Brasserie
Jardin Botanique
Rue de Tervueren
Porte de Tervueren
Commune de Winxele
Rue des Moutons
Rue de Bruxelles
Institut Carnot
Institut de Bactériologie
Rue des Pénitentes
Rue Mi-Mai
Canal
Commune de Kessel-Loo
Commune de Wilsele
Commune de Herent
Boulevard de Malines
Universitas Lovaniensis
Sedes Sapientiae
1425
N

UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE
DE LOUVAIN

EMPLACEMENT
DES
DIFFÉRENTS INSTITUTS

From the way-out of the station, *invités* not wearing academic robes have to go directly to the *Place du Peuple* by this way.

Way to go, from the way-out of the station, for the invités wearing academic robes. By this way they reach *rue de Namur* and the University Hall.

doors at sunset and ... Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

three ye
and lat
erecting
in 190
the e
nerst
recto
R
was
the
Fo
ac

LEUVEN
27
IV
15-16
1928
LOUVAIN

BELGIQUE 1 75

Mr. Samuel Goforth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

UNIVERSITÉ DE LOUVAIN

Inauguration de la Bibliothèque

4 JUILLET 1928

Mr. Samuel Goforth, Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

Séance d'inauguration.

Banquet.

Soirée de carillon.

Les invités sont priés de se munir de cette carte qui doit leur servir de carte d'entrée.

Louvain. — Imp. Van Linthout.

Jos Meulemans, graveur

---

8 à

ue

Etats-Unis d'Amérique

Réponse S. L. P. avant le 10 juin
au Recteur de l'Université de Louvain (Belgique)

Ridg

TO the E
many
and Thing
and profit,
on Ridgw
issue with
Personal
of the old
that this g
me for wha
viewpoint
press of Ph
kind of a
not, I do n
have seen [illegible] mention of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and [illegible] library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the

way, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. To no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent. American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury and prosecution. Before such a body Dr. McAndrew hasn't the slightest chance of a fair hearing.

A JOKE THAT FAILED.

A child jumps with joy when a gift is offered, but a librarian dances with rage. After the boy has grown up to be the guardian of books or the curator of other treasures, he learns that gifts, coming free of restrictions are few. Most donors make at least one stipulation—the gift must be known by the giver's name. Other conditions range from the fantastic to the impossible. Having had some years of experience with the curious "strings" on gifts to the New York Public Library, EDMUND PEARSON, retiring editor of Publications, attached a few to his gift of thirty books.

He began with that familiar deprecation which precedes the most extravagant conditions—"I expect no special recognition of the gift." Guardians of public valuables in museums know what follows. The donor, his generosity exceeded only by his modesty, would like to have his collection housed in a separate wing, specially constructed of the finest marble, with a statue of himself set in front, mounted on a pedestal on which his name is carved in perfect imitation of his own handwriting. Mr. PEARSON'S sardonic jest did not surpass the absurdity of some conditions actually made. He "only" required that his books should be catalogued on gold-edged cards, decorated with a special bookplate bearing his picture, kept in a room by themselves, and handled by caretakers wearing full evening dress. And he was supposed to be serious!

There was a Frenchman who, at the age of about 65, gave property worth over a million dollars to Columbia University on condition that an annuity be paid him from the fund for the rest of his life. The trustees were pleased for the first few years, but after the old gentleman had collected his $60,000 annually for twenty-nine years they were keenly aware of the qualifying [illegible]. Conditions may easily be [illegible]ksome that the gift is not

---

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea
nd an aura of hearty
ched the writer of
known and unkno
e all been welcome
ch inspired them
ted. It would
ach one *indivi*
impossible.
his opport
hing, tha
lumn,
YE

Girard's Talk of the Day

ly scatt [illegible] instances they are poorly housed and where but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Institute, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Academy of Fine Arts, the Pennsylvania Museum, and the Museum of Natural Science.

Years ago Governor Pennypacker said the treasures in the Historical Society were worth $6,000,000. At current prices for such things $15,000,000 would be nearer the true figure.

Fortunately these treasures are in a modern, fireproof and beautiful building in the heart of the city.

It is highly desirable that such treasures be in places where the public may easily find them without the aid of Sherlock Holmes.

* * * *

I AM wondering if Benjamin West's great painting "Healing the Sick" will always remain in the Pennsylvania Hospital?

West was Pennsylvania's foremost

tic work as politicians will [illegible] Harry A. Mackey for jobs.

* * * *

HIDING that incomparable collec-

---

it obtained success.

……The place of librarian to the Emperor of the French recently became vacant, by the death of the person filling it. During two days no less than four hundred applications were sent in for it. The situation is said to be worth eight or
all but
was the
one be
of cou

The Disadvantage of Ridgway Library

Sir: I note the article "Ridgway's Rare Values," by Burton Alva Konkle, which seems to maintain that the imposing structure on S. Broad st. is a storehouse of rare knowledge, a source of reference equalled by few and surpassed by none. This assertion I will not venture to contradict, except as to one instance. All the material mentioned by Mr. Konkle, and much more beside, may be safely buried in the archives and vaults of the Ridgway Library, but like the treasures in King Tut's tomb, it is of no possible benefit to the public until placed where the public can come in contact with the advantages to be derived therefrom.

A collection of books, be it ever so rare, learned and valuable, is of no use to the general public if locked up at the very times when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

A, MONT

LEUVEN 1 27 IV 15-16 1928 1 LOUVAIN

BELGIE 1F

BELGIE 1F75

Mr. Samuel Goforth

Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

Le Conseil d'Administration

Le Recteur et les Professeurs

de

l'Université de Louvain

prient Mr. Samuel Goforth, Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

de leur faire l'honneur d'assister le 4 juillet 1928 à

l'Inauguration de la Bibliothèque

qu'ils doivent à la générosité des

Etats-Unis d'Amérique

Réponse S. L. P. avant le 10 juin

au Recteur de l'Université de Louvain (Belgique)

Jos Meuleman, graveur

Ridg

TO the

many

and Thing

and profit,

on Ridgw

issue with

Personal

of the old

that this g

me for wh

viewpoint

press of Pl

kind of a

got, I do n

have seen [illegible]
ation of the press of this city to a
critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I
have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the

way, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent. American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury and prosecution. Before such a body McAndrew hasn't the slightest chance fair hearing.

A JOKE THAT FAILED.

A child jumps with joy when a gift is offered, but a librarian dances with rage. After the boy has grown up to be the guardian of books or the curator of other treasures, he learns that gifts coming free of restrictions are few. Most donors make at least one stipulation—the gift must be known by the giver's name. Other conditions range from the fantastic to the impossible. Having had some years of experience with the curious "strings" on gifts to the New York Public Library, EDMUND PEARSON, retiring editor of Publications, attached a few to his gift of thirty books.

He began with that familiar deprecation which precedes the most extravagant conditions—"I expect no special recognition of the gift." Guardians of public valuables in museums know what follows. The donor, his generosity exceeded only by his modesty, would like to have his collection housed in a separate wing, specially constructed of the finest marble, with a statue of himself set in front, mounted on a pedestal on which his name is carved in perfect imitation of his own handwriting. Mr. PEARSON'S sardonic jest did not surpass the absurdity of some conditions actually made. He "only" required that his books should be catalogued on gold-edged cards, decorated with a special bookplate bearing his picture, kept in a room by themselves, and handled by caretakers wearing full evening dress. And he was supposed to be serious!

There was a Frenchman who, at the age of about 65, gave property worth over a million dollars to Columbia University on condition that an annuity be paid him from the fund for the rest of his life. The trustees were pleased for the first few years, but after the old gentleman had collected his $60,000 annually for twenty-nine years they were keenly aware of the qualifying clause. Conditions may easily be ksome that the gift is not

---

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea
nd an aura of hearty

Girard's Talk of the Day

ly scatt... instances they are poorly housed and where but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Institute, Historical Society of Pennsyl-

---

A collection of books, be it ever so learned and valuable, is of no use to the general public if locked up at the very times when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

Univ. Cath. Lovaniensis Sedes Sapientiae 1425

LEUVEN 1 27 IV 15-16 1928 LOUVAIN 1

Mr. Samuel Goforth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

---

have seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a ritical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I ave not seen Mr. Newton's comments, ut as given in your column he seems o have succumbed like the rest. For he first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the Library Company, including Ridgway, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent. American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury
and prosecution. Be
McAndrew hasn't the
fair hearing.

A JOKE THAT FA

A child jumps with
gift is offered, but a libr
with rage. After the boy
up to be the guardian
the curator of other t
learns that gifts coming
strictions are few. M
make at least one stip
gift must be known by
name. Other conditions
the fantastic to the imp
ing had some years o
with the curious "strin
to the New York Pub
EDMUND PEARSON, retir
Publications, attached
gift of thirty books.

He began with that
recation which preced
extravagant conditions
no special recognition
Guardians of public
museums know what
donor, his generosity
by his modesty, would
his collection housed
wing, specially constr
finest marble, with a s
self set in front, moun
estal on which his na
in perfect imitation
handwriting. Mr. Pe
donic jest did not sur
surdity of some condi
made. He "only" req
books should be catalo
edged cards, decorated
cial bookplate bearing
kept in a room by the
handled by caretakers
evening dress. And he
to be serious!

There was a French
the age of about 65,
worth over a million
lumbia University on
an annuity be paid
fund for the rest of
trustees were pleased
few years, but after t
man had collected
nually for twenty-ni
were keenly aware of
Conditions m
ksome that

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

t a
nd

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea
nd an aura of hearty

us
means
ating"

Girard's Talk of the Day

ly scatte stances they are poorly housed and where but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Institute, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Academy of Fine Arts, the

RELI
Tl

---

learned and valuable, is of no use to the general public if locked up at the very times when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

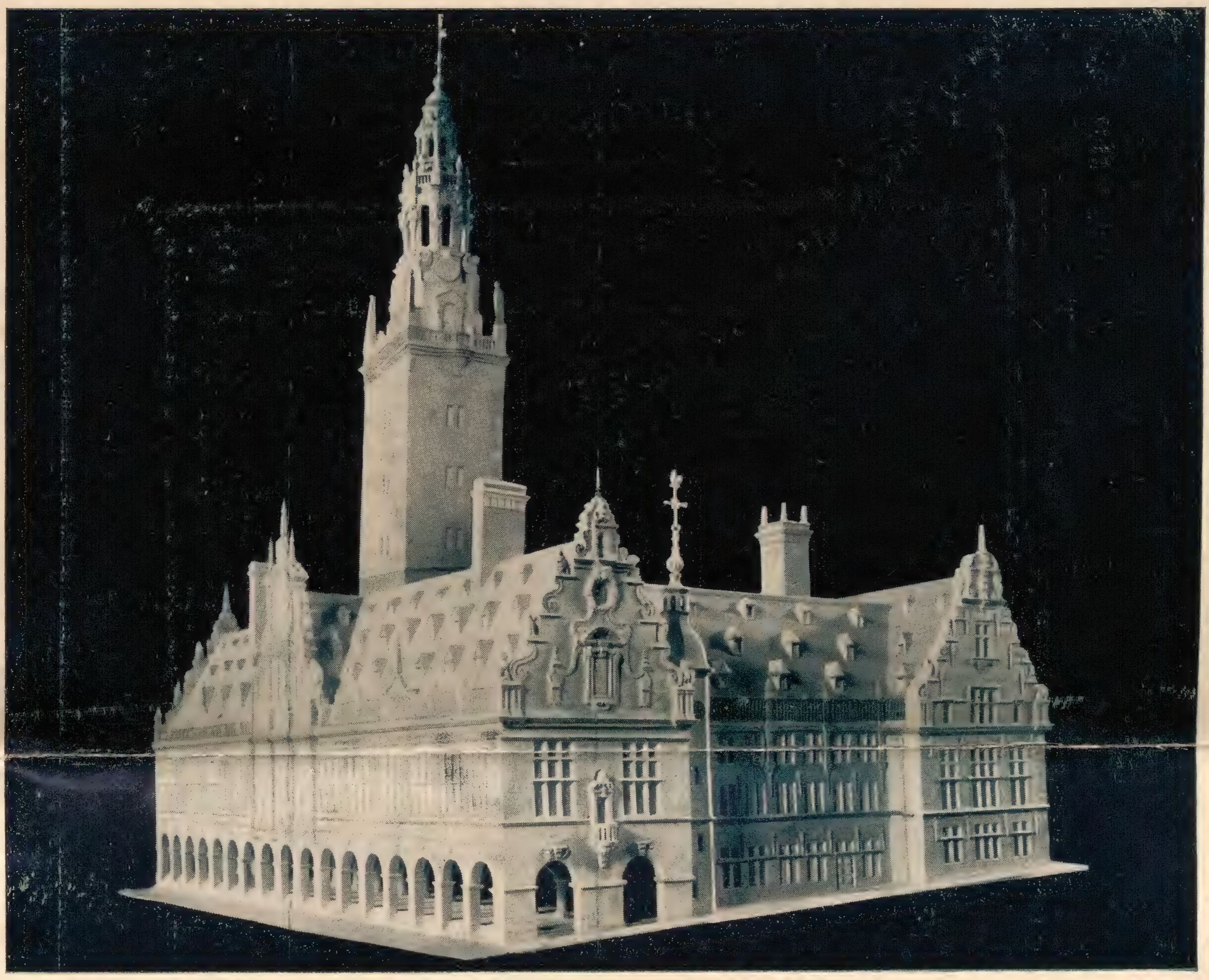
H. W. F.

his fathe
was at S
He was
parish.
of the
All Sain
three ye
and la
erectin
in 190
the
nerst
recto
R
was
the
Fo
ac

A, MONT

LEUVEN
27
IV
15-16
1928
LOUVAIN

Mr. Samuel Goforth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia



INAUGURATION OF THE LIBRARY

ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN
4TH OF JULY 1928

[illegible] seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the [illegible] old Philadelphia Library Company, including Ridgway, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury and prosecution. Be

McAndrew hasn't the

fair hearing.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

t a
nd

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea

Girard's Talk of the Day

us

means
ating"

ly scat distances they are poorly housed and where but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Insti- Historical Society of Pennsyl-

RELI

A JOKE THAT FA

A child jumps with
gift is offered, but a libr
with rage. After the bo
up to be the guardian
the curator of other t
learns that gifts comin
strictions are few.
make at least one sti
gift must be known b
name. Other condition
the fantastic to the imp
ing had some years
with the curious "strin
to the New York Pu
EDMUND PEARSON, reti
Publications, attached
gift of thirty books.

He began with that
recation which prece
extravagant condition
no special recognition
Guardians of public
museums know what
donor, his generosity
by his modesty, woul
his collection housed
wing, specially const
finest marble, with a
self set in front, mou
estal on which his n
in perfect imitation
handwriting. Mr. P
donic jest did not su
surdity of some cond
made. He "only" re
books should be catal
edged cards, decorate
cial bookplate bearin
kept in a room by th
handled by caretaker
evening dress. And he
to be serious!

There was a Fren
the age of about 65,
worth over a million
lumbia University on
an annuity be paid
fund for the rest of
trustees were please
few years, but afte
man had collected
nually for twenty-
were keenly aware of
Conditions
ksome that

PROGRAM OF THE CELEBRATIONS

At 1.30 p. m. exactly, meeting at the University Hall (rue de Namur) of the Louvain Faculty and of the *invités* who are wearing academic robes. The *invités* not wearing academic robes are requested to go directly to the Place du Peuple.

At 2.30 p. m. Benediction of the Library building and of the carillon by His Eminence Cardinal VAN ROEY, archbishop of Malines, assisted by American and Belgian bishops.

First ringing of the big bell, after the benediction.

At 2.45 p. m. Inauguration of the Library building, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince LEOPOLD of Belgium.

Cantate of PETER BENOIT : *De waereld in* (Into the World), sung by the children of the Louvain schools.

Speeches by the representatives of the American donors. Handing over of the keys of the Library and of the carillon to the authorities of the University of Louvain.

Speech by His Eminence Cardinal VAN ROEY, president of the Board of Trustees of the University.

Cantate of LÉON DUBOIS : *Nos Carillons*, sung by the children of the Louvain schools.

Playing on the carillon of the American and Belgian national anthems.

At 4.30 p. m. Visit of the Library building. Inauguration of the bust of M. HERBERT HOOVER. Visit of the University Halls burnt down in 1914.

At 6 p. m. Banquet in the reading room of the Library. Broadcasting in the room, by radio, of the playing of the most known carillons of Belgium.

At 8 p. m. *Soirée* of the carillon. The playing of the carillon by M. J. DENIJN, the celebrated carillon-player of Malines, will alternate with songs executed by the *Legia*, the first choir of singers of Belgium (Liége).

At 10 p. m. Fire-works on the tower of the Library.

NOTA : *The successive items of the celebrations will be announced, from the top of the Library tower, by thebaean trumpets.*

---

learned and valuable, is of no use to the general public if locked up at the very times when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

his fathe
was at S
He was
parish.
of the
All Sain
three ye
and la
erectin
in 190
the e
nerst
recto
R
was
the
Fo
ac

UNIV. CATH. LOVANIENSIS
SEDES SAPIENTIAE
1425

LEUVEN 1
27 IV 15-16 1928
LOUVAIN 1

BELGIE 1
1F75 BELGIE 1F75

Mr. Samuel Gofoth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia

ADVICE TO THE INVITÉS

1° The hotels of Louvain being too small, as to their accomodation, for the circumstances, we deem it necessary to give herewith a list of Brussels hotels :

Palace Hôtel, Place Rogier.
Grand Hôtel, 29, Boulevard Anspach.
Wilckers Hôtel, Avenue Louise.
Hôtel Métropole, 31, Place de Brouckère.
Hôtel Astoria, 103, Rue Royale.
Grand Hôtel Britannique, 3, Place du Trône.

The *invités* wo wish to book rooms in one of these hotels, can, from now on, notify their intention to the representatives of the „ Commission for Relief in Belgium Educational Foundation ", Boulevard Bischoffsheim, 41, Brussels, with indication of the days during wich the rooms ought to be reserved.

2° There are no more than 30 minutes train for the journey from Brussels to Louvain. Besides the ordinary trains departing from Brussels (Nord) at 11.33 a. m. et 12.39, there will be organised, on the 4th of July, for the *invités,* a special train leaving Brussels (Nord) about 1 p. m. (Enquire about the exact hour of departure at the railway

---

[illegible] been an almost universal indifference of the press of this city to a critical, almost [illegible] attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the [illegible] way, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

It would not be at all surprising if the Hon. William Hale Thompson, of Chicago, should shortly chuck his large sombrero into the ring as a candidate for President on a 100 per cent, American platform. The Mayor has just ordered the board of the Chicago Public Library to begin an investigation of the hundreds of volumes of history on the shelves of that institution to determine whether there is a taint of pro-British propaganda in any of them. All this is part of the great show that "Big Bill" is now conducting in an effort to discredit Dr. William McAndrew, whom he wants to have ousted as superintendent of schools. Professor Charles E. Merriam, of the University of Chicago, is quite right in characterizing the present trial of Dr. McAndrew by the Board of Education as "a prime piece of political humor," a procedure which "violates every principle of the square deal," for the board, composed largely of Thompson appointees, is acting as Judge, jury and prosecution. B
McAndrew hasn't th
fair hearing.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1927

t a
nd

EDITORIAL COMMENT

So long, Old Year, we have a sigh;
(Miss New Year, how-dy-do?)
moment more to say good-by,
And then we'll welcome you.)
ORGE ROTHWELL BROV
ngton Post.

ards and letters bea
nd an aura of hearty

means
ating"

Girard's Talk of the Day

ly scat... instances
they are poorly housed and where
but few see them.

I mean by treasures such priceless things as you find in Franklin Institute, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Academy of Fine Arts, the

RELI
T

A JOKE THAT F

A child jumps with
gift is offered, but a libr
with rage. After the bo
up to be the guardian
the curator of other
learns that gifts, comin
strictions are few.
make at least one sti
gift must be known b
name. Other condition
the fantastic to the imp
ing had some years
with the curious "strin
to the New York Pu
EDMUND PEARSON, reti
Publications, attached
gift of thirty books.

He began with that
recation which prece
extravagant condition
no special recognition
Guardians of public
museums know what
donor, his generosity
by his modesty, would
his collection housed
wing, specially const
finest marble, with a
self set in front, mour
estal on which his na
in perfect imitation
handwriting. Mr. P
donic jest did not su
surdity of some cond
made. He "only" re
books should be catal
edged cards, decorate
cial bookplate bearin
kept in a room by th
handled by caretaker
evening dress. And he
to be serious!

There was a Frenc
the age of about 65,
worth over a million
lumbia University on
an annuity be paid
fund for the rest of
trustees were pleased
few years, but after
man had collected
nually for twenty-n
were keenly aware of
Conditions
ksome that

---

station). — On the evening of the same day, besides the ordinary trains departing from Louvain for Brussels at 10.25 p. m. and 11.51 p. m., there will be a special train, to convey the *invités* to Brussels, leaving Louvain about 11 p. m.

3° The *invités* are requested to have with them their invitation letter and tickets in order to get a reserved seat at the celebrations, and also the herewith annexed card, which shall have to be presented at the entry of the Banquet Hall. This card is strictly *personal*. As the number of seats at the Banquet is limited, only those will be admitted who shall have notified, at the date inscribed on the invitation, their intention to assist.

4° Seats will be reserved for the *invités* at the Place du Peuple, where the celebrations take place. The *invités* are requested to go to that Place *by the Rue Léopold*

5° The afternoon-dress is all right for the celebrations (also at the Banquet).

However, if the representatives of Universities, Colleges, academies, etc. will be so kind as tho wear their academic robes for the inauguration ceremonies, they are requested to be present at 1.30 p. m. at the University Hall (rue de Namur) ; from this Hall the Faculty and foreign academic delegates will depart in stately *cortège* at 2 p. m.

Jos Meulemans, graveur, Louvain.

---

general public if locked up at the very time when the general public is at leisure to make use of them. A library which closes its doors at sunset and does not open at all on Saturdays or holidays, and which makes no attempt whatever to place the books in touch with the people, is of very little use to the community.

Possibly the Ridgway Library is all that Mr. Konkle claims for it, and contains vast quantities of learned lore, but for goodness' sake, why not make it of use to the community instead of hoarding it behind locked doors? Why not make the Ridgway Library as a beacon set on a hill, instead of hiding its light under a bushel?

H. W. F.

---

athe
was at S
He was
parish.
of the
All Sain
three ye
and la
erectin
in 190
the e
nerst
recto
R
was
the
Fo
a

LEUVEN
1 27 IV 15-16 1928 1
LOUVAIN

Mr. Samuel Goforth
Librarian of the Library Company of Philadelphia
Broad and Christian Sts.
Philadelphia, Penna

U. S. A.

Ridgway's Rare Values

TO the Editor of The Bulletin: For many years I have read your Men and Things column with such pleasure and profit, that I read your comments on Ridgway Library in last Friday's issue with considerable disappointment.

Personally I have not inherited any of the old feuds of Philadelphia, so that this great institution is viewed by me for what it is, rather than from the viewpoint of the past. Whether the press of Philadelphia gives way to that kind of a "dead hand" influence or not, I do not know, but for thirty years I have seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the only scholarly, continuously current and cosmopolitan library on this continent, current in the best scholarship, through the Loganian part, practically continuously since Cromwell's time. There is no such rare institution on this continent; and there never will be. It is like a California redwood; it has grown; money cannot create such a collection now.

The Philadelphia Library Company is the Ridgway, where all non-current matters go, with the Juniper-Locust building as its uptown current office, so to speak. It is the greatest reservoir of the widest and profoundest scholarship in Philadelphia, certainly, if not in the United States. It is more nearly the British Museum, Biblioteque Nationale or Vatican Library for the United States than any other in the whole land. No broad or profound scholar in research comes to Philadelphia and omits Ridgway, or, if you please, the Philadelphia Library Company. Numbers! What has numbers to do with such an Institution? The Free Library is primarily designed for numbers; and nobly is it answering its main design; but must we sneer at a University because it isn't a Normal School; or be patronizing to a Johns Hopkins because it isn't a fresh water "University?" Isn't such an attitude nothing but mere ignorance?

I know little about Dr. James Rush, and care less, if knowledge of him and his will has such unfortunate influence upon the mind that it can distort a true conception of so great an institution. But I do know the scholarship of James Logan—probably the greatest in the American colonies in his day; and his and his father's great classical libraries carry this and the northern library at Locust far back of 1731 when Franklin and his coterie founded it. A library is like its maker: narrow, cosmopolitan, profound, scholarly, popular, technical, cultural, scientific and so on. This library is not merely a James Rush collection, even if he were the highest type of scholar; it is far more the collection of the Franklin "Junto" and their successors to this day, and that of James Logan. Dr. Rush must have been a very high type of man to have identified himself with such groups and appreciated them enough to make them his executors.

It has been my lot to spend most of my years in Philadelphia libraries; and I have come to know each as an individual personality. The old Philadelphia Library Company, including Ridgway, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters, and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Evening Bulletin, Wed. Feb. 29, 1928

TO the Editor of The Bulletin: For many years I have read your Men and Things column with such pleasure and profit, that I read your comments on Ridgway Library in last Friday's issue with considerable disappointment.

Personally I have not inherited any of the old feuds of Philadelphia, so that this great institution is viewed by me for what it is, rather than from the viewpoint of the past. Whether the press of Philadelphia gives way to that kind of a "dead hand" influence or not, I do not know, but for thirty years I have seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia." the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the only scholarly, continuously current and cosmopolitan library on this continent, current in the best scholarship, through the Loganian part, practically continuously since Cromwell's time. There is no such rare institution on this continent; and there never will be. It is like a California redwood; it has grown; money cannot create such a collection now.

The Philadelphia Library Company is the Ridgway, where all non-current matters go, with the Juniper-Locust building as its uptown current office, so to speak. It is the greatest reservoir of the widest and profoundest scholarship in Philadelphia, certainly, if not in the United States. It is more nearly the British Museum, Biblioteque Nationale or Vatican Library for the United States than any other in the whole land. No broad or profound scholar in research comes to Philadelphia and omits Ridgway, or, if you please, the Philadelphia Library Company. Numbers! What has numbers to do with such an Institution? The Free Library is primarily designed for numbers; and nobly is it answering its main design; but must we sneer at a University because it isn't a Normal School; or be patronizing to a Johns Hopkins because it isn't a fresh water "University?" Isn't such an attitude nothing but mere ignorance?

I know little about Dr. James Rush, and care less, if knowledge of him and his will has such unfortunate influence upon the mind that it can distort a true conception of so great an institution. But I do know the scholarship of James Logan—probably the greatest in the American colonies in his day; and his and his father's great classical libraries carry this and the northern library at Locust far back of 1731 when Franklin and his coterie founded it. A library is like its maker: narrow, cosmopolitan, profound, scholarly, popular, technical, cultural, scientific and so on. This library is not merely a James Rush collection, even if he were the highest type of scholar: it is far more the collection of the Franklin "Junto" and their successors to this day, and that of James Logan. Dr. Rush must have been a very high type of man to have identified himself with such groups and appreciated them enough to make them his executors.

It has been my lot to spend most of my years in Philadelphia libraries; and I have come to know each as an individual personality. The old Philadelphia Library Company, including Ridgway, has always had Franklin's cosmopolitan outlook and consequent selection. In no one of them can one get nearer to original sources from all the world; and what is a more distinctive mark of scholarship than dependence on originals? A man is known by the books of reference he seeks. This is not to say that other libraries have not originals; but they are not the subject of this comment. They also have their characters. and it would give one pleasure, did space permit, to speak of their several excellences; but no one has "shaken his gory locks" at them.

Burton Alva Konkle.

Bulletin Feb 29th 1928

It wo
Williar
shortl
as a c
Amer
dered
brary
dreds
that
a tai
them.
"Big
discr
want
schoo
the
char
And
prin
whic
deal
Tho
and
McA
fair

A

A cl
gift is
with ra
up to
the cu
learns
strictio
make
gift m
name.
the fan
ing ha
with th
to the
EDMUN
Publicati
gift of thi

He bega
recation
extravaga
no spec
Guardia
museum
donor,
by his
his coll
wing, s
finest m
self set
estal on
in perf
handwri
donic je
surdity
made.
books sh
edged ca
cial boo
kept in
handled
evening
to be ser

There
the age
worth o
lumbia U
an annu
fund for
trustees
few year
man had
nually f
were kee

with a spe-
his picture,
selves, and
earing full
s supposed

n who, at
property
rs to Co-
ition that
from the
fe. The
the first

A LANDSLIDE IN QUEBEC.

A dispatch from Berthier, Quebec, to the Toronto *Globe*, dated Jan. 7, gives the following account of the landslide near that place: A most remarkable phenomenon occurred in the parish of Berthier, about three miles from the upper town, to-day, and the inhabitants hereabout, fifteen-sixteenths of whom are French Canadians, are in a deplorable state of fear and panic over what they imagine is a visitation from God. Farmer Savignac just before daylight heard a low, hollow, rumbling noise, and felt a swaying of his house. He rushed into the open, where a sight met his gaze which all but paralyzed him. A barn about 50 yards from his house was standing up on one corner, the roof sliding off and slowly crumbling to pieces before his eyes. Another barn, which had stood 100 yards from the first, was lying flattened out on the ground, the hay and straw tumbled all about, and the cattle and horses standing still, shrieking with terror. The trees along the banks of a small river that ran by the Savignac farm seemed to be drunk, for they swayed about and assumed attitudes which under certain circumstances would make a man believe he had a bad attack of the jams. The ice which had covered the river the night before was gone and the bed of the river dry. The fences on his farm were some of them entirely gone, the rest scattered about like shavings. Savignac called his two sons and wife, and was pointing to the recent movements of his larger barn, when the earth gave another shiver, seemed to assume an appearance like the waves of a sea, and then slowly, surely, and, to the on-lookers, appallingly began to sink. The large barn flopped over on its side and then spreading out disappeared into the earth.

The barley field, formerly as flat and level as a billiard table, got its back up in a hundred shapes, in some places sinking to a depth of 50 feet, in others rising up in a series of small hills. The banks of the river curled back upon themselves and the ground between them arose to a ridge, the crest of which was formed by the river bed, the bottoms of the sides being formed of what formerly were the banks.

To the north of Savignac's barns, and on the farm of Pierre Lalonde, the latter's brick-lined well rose straight up into the air, where it looks like the chimney of a subterranean house. Lalonde's farm sunk 50 feet at least and the river, which passed within 200 yards of his house, ran into a depression of the earth 40 acres in extent, where it formed a lake, the southern outlet of which is a crack in the ground leading to where no one knows.

Savignac's farm has entire-

ART NOTES.

The February *Magazine of Art* is a Gladstone number, so many are the portraits of Mr. Gladstone reproduced for the article by T. Wemyss Reid. It is diverting to Americans to hear Britons denounce Gladstone as a traitor and villain, when the great number and variety of portraits made of him testify to a long career devoted to the service of his country. From the caricatures by John Leech in *Punch* half a century ago to the oil painting by H. J. Thaddeus in 1888, there is a chain of pictures and busts of which only a few have been selected. The last is in some respects the best, though the painter is young and little known outside Great Britain and Ireland. That by Mr. G. F. Watts, taken in 1858, is interesting; the bust by Thomas Woolner, R. A., (1882,) is poor; Mr. W. B. Richmond's three-quarter portrait front face, taking Gladstone in his academic robes with a folio on his knee, is full of style, judging merely by the woodcut, which probably softens the staring look of Richmond's pictures; and the sketch, profile, seated, with right hand to his ear, made by Mr. Harry Furniss last year in the House of Commons, is exaggerated without the intention of caricature. The magazine considers the three-quarter seated portrait by Sir J. E. Millais (1885) the best of the lot, if we may deduce a preference from the fact that a good photo-engraving on heavy paper represents this likeness. It is a three-quarter front with the eyes turned to the right looking straight at the beholder, the right hand holding a quarto upright on the knee. The hand is slurred, being hardly drawn at all, but the face is alert, intelligent, earnest. The pensive figure by Thaddeus is likely to prove the more enjoyable in the long run; that by Millais may become wearisome from its alertness, as well as an air of sitting for a portrait, which the best painters have not always been able to avoid.

Objects belonging to the slaves and overseers who worked the copper mines of Rio Tinto, near Huelva, Spain, during the Roman epoch are kept in a museum in that town. Mr. J. H. Round reports that the hoes and pickaxes used in Spain are almost the same as those found in these mines. The treadmills used for draining the mines had ropes for the slaves to hold on. Bronze urns and pigs of lead with Roman stamps, fetters, collars, and anklets of modern shapes, amphoræ standing in their stone sockets and coins as late as A. D. 680 are there to be seen. An earlier working of the mines than the Roman is indicated by rude mortars and pestles, together with hammers of stone with depressions in the centre of the handle.

The French excavations on the site of the Temple of the Muses on Mount Helicon have yielded many inscriptions, including an epigram in verse, coins not a few, a vase showing Medusa surrounded by dolphins

It wo
Willian
shortly
as a c
Amer
dered
brary
dreds
that i
a tair
them.
"Big
discre
want
schoo
the
chara
Andı
prim
whic
deal,
Thoı
and
McA
fair

A

A ch
gift is
with ra
up to
the cu
learns
strictio
make a
gift mu
name.
the fant
ing had
with th
to the
EDMUND
Publicati
gift of thi
He bega
recation w
extravagan
no speci
Guardia
museum
donor, h
by his m
his colle
wing, sp
finest ma
self set i
estal on
in perfe
handwrit
donic jes
surdity o
made. H
books sh
edged ca
cial book
kept in a
handled
evening d
to be seri
There
the age o
worth ov
lumbia U
an annui
fund for
trustees
few years
man had
nually fo
were keen

TO the Editor of The Bulletin: For many years I have read your Men and Things column with such pleasure and profit, that I read your comments on Ridgway Library in last Friday's issue with considerable disappointment.

Personally I have not inherited any of the old feuds of Philadelphia, so that this great institution is viewed by me for what it is, rather than from the viewpoint of the past. Whether the press of Philadelphia gives way to that kind of a "dead hand" influence or not, I do not know, but for thirty years I have seen an almost universal inclination of the press of this city to a critical, almost sneering attitude toward this great and unique library. I have not seen Mr. Newton's comments, but as given in your column he seems to have succumbed like the rest. For the first time it makes one wonder whether that delightful writer is only a mere antiquarian rather than a profound student.

Just what is Ridgway Library? It is the great "Library Company of Philadelphia," the oldest circulating one on this continent, with the Rush and Loganian collections which make it the only scholarly, continuously current and cosmopolitan library on this continent, current in the best scholarship, through the Loganian part, practically continuously since Cromwell's time. There is no such rare institution on this continent; and there never will be. It is like a California redwood; it has grown; money cannot create such a collection now.

The Philadelphia Library Company is the Ridgway, where all non-current matters go, with the Juniper-Locust building as its uptown current office, so to speak. It is the greatest reservoir of the widest and profoundest scholarship in Philadelphia, certainly, if not in the United States. It is more nearly the British Museum, Biblioteque Nationale or Vatican Library for the United States than any other in the whole land. No broad or profound scholar in research comes to Philadelphia and omits Ridgway, or, if you please, the Philadelphia Library Company. Numbers! What has numbers to do with such an Institution? The Free Library is primarily designed for numbers; and nobly is it answering its main design; but must we sneer at a University because it isn't a Normal School; or be patronizing to a Johns Hopkins because it isn't a fresh water "University?" Isn't such an attitude nothing but mere ignorance?

I know little about Dr. James Rush,
an re less, if knowledge of him and
hi e
en
a
tut
of
in
and
libr
libr
wh
it.
cos
lar,
on.
Ru
hig
the
and
tha
have
have identified himself with such groups
and
them
It
my
I ha
yidu
phia
way,
polit
tion.
near
worl
mark
origi
book
not
origi
of th
char
ure,
sever
"shal

Bulletin F

---

with a spe-
his picture,
selves, and
aring full
supposed

who, at
property
s to Co-
ion that
rom the
e. The
he first
gentle

THE MOLIERE COLLECTOR

RARE TREASURES IN HIS LIBRARY.

A MOLIÈRE TROPHY THAT A BOOKBINDER DESTROYED—THE MOLIÈRE FIRST EDITIONS DESCRIBED.

Pierre Corneille gave a copy of his translation of the "Imitation of Jesus Christ" to Molière, and Molière, [illegible] less rare than Shakespeare's, wrote his name and two lines of verse on the fly leaf of the book. In the last century, Favart, an amiable poet and great book lover, gave the book to the charming actress who was to become his wife when Maurice de Saxe, whose court she had rejected, caused her to be taken to the Ursulines Convent at Andelys. Later she was transferred to Angers, and forgot the book at Andelys.

After an inventory of that convent's property during the Revolution, most of its books went to the district library, but the works of Boileau, containing 30 lines of the satirist's handwriting addressed to Mgr. de Guilleragues to whom is dedicated the fifth epistle, and the Corneille "Imitation" containing Molière's autograph, were given, with some other books, for his overdue wages to M. Pantin, the district librarian.

The works of Boileau were afterward obtained by Didot, but the "Imitation" remained in spite of all the efforts of Beffara, whose works on Molière are precious, in M. Pantin's bookcase until 1855, when it was bequeathed to M. Mesteil, a nephew of M. Pantin and an ardent book collector. The precious book had the marks of age and wear when M. Mesteil got it, so he sent it to the local bookbinder, who took pride in returning it with a faultless white page in the place of the one tarnished by two lines of handwriting and a signature! M. Mesteil survived the shock, and did not die till 12 years after, having borne his misfortune with admirable resignation.

But the enthusiasts that write for the *Molièriste* have had no new pleasure to efface this ancient affliction.

Mr. Georges Monval has it to prey on his mind. Mr.

1668, with privilege to "I. B. P. de Molière," dated Feb. 20, 1668, may be easily distinguished from the counterfeit edition, in the fleuron to the title of which is printed "Sur l'imprimé." The book is a duodecimo, bound by Trautz, and cost its present owner $225. The play was first performed before the King in the Louvre on Jan. 29, 1664.

"L'Amour Médecin," author's name as in the first play, "Chez Theodore Girard," dated 1666, with privilege to Molière dated Dec. 30, 1665, may be distinguished from the counterfeit edition by the same token as "Le Marriage Forcé." The book is a duodecimo, bound by Lortic, and cost its owner $300. The play was first performed before the King Sept. 15, 1665.

"Le Misantrope," author's name as in the first play, same book shop as "Le Mariage Forcé," dated 1667, with privilege to J. B. P. de Molière. This is a duodecimo, bound by Trautz, and cost its owner $225. The play was first performed June 4, 1666. The Duke de Montausier, having heard that the dramatist had portrayed him in Alceste, threatened to have him bastinadoed, as was the custom in those days of gallantry, but was invited to the performance and thanked Molière for having made of him "the most honest man that could be."

"Le Médecin Malgré-Luy," same author's name, same book shop, dated 1667, with privilege to "Jean Baptiste Pocquelin de Molière, comédiens," dated Oct. 8, 1666, may be distinguished from the counterfeit edition, which contains the letter P (for the printer, Provensal,) in a shield on the fleuron of the title. The book is a duodecimo, bound by Lortic, and cost its owner $150. The play was performed for the first time Aug. 6, 1666.

"The Sicilien," same author's name, same book shop, dated 1668, with privilege to "I. B. Pocquelin de Molière," dated the last day of October, 1667, is a duodecimo, bound by Trautz, and cost its owner $320. The play had been performed in the Ballet des Muses at Saint-Germain in December, 1667.

"Le Tartuffe," same author's name, same book shop, dated 1669, with privilege to I. B. P. de Molière, dated March 15, 1669, a duodecimo, bound by Lortic, cost its owner $375. The play was first performed in May, 1664, but the King's protection could not save it from interdiction. The prototype of "Le Tartuffe" was probably the Abbé Roquette, spiritual adviser of the converted Prince de Conti.

"Amphitryon," same author's name, same book shop, dated 1668, with privilege to Molière, dated Feb. 20, 1668, a duodecimo, bound by Trautz, cost its owner $375. The first performance occurred Jan. 13, 1668.

"L'Avare," same author's name, same book shop, dated 1669, with privilege to Molière, dated the last day of

OCTOBER 22, 1927

CHICAGO TO BURN PRO-BRITISH BOOKS

Will Emulate Boston Tea Party on Lake Shore—Accused Historian Asks Damages

MUZZEY SUES FOR $100,000

Chicago, Oct. 22.—(AP)—Fire and fireworks, actual and figurative, lent light and repercussion to Mayor Thompson's crusade against British-tainted literature today.

The fire is definitely promised. It is to be on the shores of Lake Michigan, and the fuel will be public library books which the Mayor finds "tainted" with anti-Americanism."

The fireworks were set off yesterday when Prof. David S. Muzzey, of Columbia University, writer of history texts, filed the precipe of a $100,000-damage suit in Federal Court here. The suit is directed against John J. Gorman, former Illinois Congressman, who, acting as Mayor Thompson's investigator, made charges that the Muzzey text, used in Chicago schools, is pro-British in its treatment of many events and personages of American history.

Gorman was not slow in accepting the professional defi.

"Muzzey's law suit will not stifle my voice," he said. "It shall be heard again Monday, when I return to my testimony before the Board of Education in the trial of William McAndrew, school superintendent, on charges of fostering pro-British teaching in the schools.

"My voice shall be heard in telling Chicago taxpayers how their school teachers, sent to a class at the University of Chicago by McAndrew, rebelled against the pro-British history of Schlesinger.

"The people would like to hear Muzzey explain his reasons for minimizing and disparaging the heroes of the Revolutionary War and their achievements."

The cudgel for Prof. Muzzey was taken up by former Judge Stephen A. Foster, who filed the praecipe. The suit, he said, will charge that statements in Dr. Muzzey's book were distorted and maliciously misconstrued in the Gorman report to the Mayor following investigation of Chicago school textbooks.

The report was twisted, Mr. Foster said, to make it appear that Prof. Muzzey held toward the Colonists and George Washington the sentiments which in the book actually are ascribed to King George III.

Meanwhile the work of gathering together the book fuel for the promised public bonfire on the lake shore went forward under the direction of U. J. (Sport) Herrmann, chosen by Mayor Thompson to rid the Public Library of books branded with pro-British leanings.

Several "suspicious books" were found yesterday by Charles Grant Miller, who several years ago was quoted as declaring that an "insidious campaign is under way to mold public opinion in favor of canceling the British debt." All the "suspected" books were classed as histories.

The New-York Time

THE BOOKS OF FRANCE.

Bibliophilists of the English language collect the books of France. Bibliophilists of the French language do not collect the books of England or America. There is a Villon Society and a Rabelais Club in London; there is a Grolier Club in New-York, and there are ardent admirers of the French classics in both places, but although there is a great number of book collectors in every large city of France, and many among them are bibliomaniacs who gather books as they would gather coins or postage stamps or toys, not one is preoccupied with Anglo-Saxon literature. Valuable books of Paris fetch higher prices at Sotheby's than at the Hôtel Drouot, but at the Hôtel Drouot an English book would be misplaced. There may come a valuable Shakespeare, but in French of François Victor Hugo, who did not live in London for two years to learn English and forget his French like that friend of Gautier's who drank ale in Falstaff's inns and fell in love with a barmaid, but worked at Guernsey while his illustrious father looked at the ocean, after saying that that was equivalent to translating Shakespeare. There may come a superb Milton, but translated by Lamartine, much criticised by Villemain, because the French poet knew not that a brook that ran "fast by" was a brook that ran close and not rapidly by, and Sterne's "Sentimental Journey," translated by Janin, and the "Vicar of Wakefield," with odd pages by Goldsmith and even pages by Nodier and Poe's "Raven" similarly arranged by Stéphane Mallarmé and illustrated by Manet, but not the originals.

The world competes for the best books of France, but only the English collectors compete for the best books of England, and just as Sainte-Beuve says, truthfully, that every new reader of French is a new reader for Molière, every new American bibliophilist is a new collector of French books. Morgand has as many American customers as Quaritch; Conquet has a number of subscribers in New-York; the Maison Quantin may depend on Yankee patronage for its flightiest fancies in bookmaking. Well directed, the influence of the Parisian bibliopole may last forever. He will be wise not to follow the bad example of Fontaine, who got the complaisant Librarian of the Arsenal to laud Retif de la Bretonne, a coarse, ill-mannered, deservedly forgotten novelist of the last century, whom Lavater had called "the French Richardson," as if Lavater could tell, and then made a catalogue of some of his books at prices which were great enough for the folly of collectors of high-priced things, be they books or pictures or pottery. It did not take a decade to send Retif to his dungeon as dark as a wolf's mouth, but it will take many decades for collectors to cease from suspecting a Retif in every catalogue. They say in France that a scalded cat fears cold water. Another Parisian Bibliopole made reprints of the books of the eighteenth century illustrated by Eisen, Marillier, and others, admirable illustrations but namby-pamby books, "Les Tourterelles de Zelmis," "Les Baisers" of Dorat, "Le Temple de Gnide," which were once the rage among bibliophilists and have now their deserts. You paid $90 for the "Baisers" reprint on Japan with three sets of proofs of the illustrations and bound by Smeers, and a year after were glad to get rid of the book at any price. It was like a diet of candy. With the Romantiques was the other extreme, the possibility of getting an exorbitant price for such nonsese as Petrus Borel's "Madame Putiphar," not sugar and water, but fire and water; a big book written to prove that "La femme d'un charbonnier est plus estimable que la maîtresse d'un roi," and not for fun, but in all seriousness.

Celestin Nanteuil, Achille Deveria, Tony Johannot made illustrations for that sort of literature, for "Bug-Jargal" and "Han d'Islande" and countless other books ephemeral, crammed with talent, but ephemeral, not valuable even as the mark of an epoch, for there certainly never was a time when the literature of a country was more at variance with its manners than in the reign of Louis Philippe. What, pray, had the "Capitaine Fracasse" or the "Roi S'Amuse," or "Hernani" to do with the cotton nightcap Government of their day that collectors should have raved over them? Hugo and Gautier were great artists, but as Romantiques their art was for art's sake, and of the work of an artist nothing will—certainly nothing ought to—survive but what has the form and pressure of its epoch.

Those who decry in bibliomania a special regard for first editions, because later ones are often amended by the author, believe that it is not for practical people to be eager about them; but nothing is so practical for practical people as money, and a fortune may come of a well-made collection of books. You are asked how so often that even the sage who declares that if his hand was full of truths he would take good care not to open it yields and tells his plans, and here follows one which should satisfy the dignified, who are impatient of crotchets, and the curious, to whom nothing that interests humanity can be a matter of indifference. As it is understood that the books of France lead, collect them, but not those that are only the fashion, for fashions pass in books as in everything else. Collect the classics. In three centuries, from the invention of printing to the Revolution, from the "Roman de la Rose" to "Manon Lescaut" there are not 300 works to be regarded as classics of French literature or indispensable to a complete collection of the best books of France for that period. The authors are not 70 in number, but the list does not include the chroniclers, historians, and pamphleteers, although the sage likes Froissart, Joinville, Monstrelet, Comines, Anquetil, and even Bussy-Rabutin. The line must be drawn somewhere. Plato would draw the line at poets, not we, for there are 29 of them in our list, whose names are Franc, Villon, Chartier, Coquillart, Gringoire, Jehan Marot, Clement Marot, Marguerite de Valois, Denisot, Louise Labé, Mme. du Guillet, Ronsard, Baïf, Saint-Gelais, Du Bellay, Des Portes, Belleau, La Fresnaye, d'Aubigné, Regnier, Malherbe, La Fontaine, Cailly or Chevalier d'Aceilly, Boileau, La Sablière, Mme. Des Houlières, J. B. Rousseau, Gresset, Piron. The drama is represented by La Sale, (Maistre Pierre Pathelin,) Rotrou, Corneille, Molière, Racine, Regnard, Marivaux, Destouches, Sedaine, Beaumarchais; theology by Bossuet, Fénelon, and Mlle. de La Vallière; philosophy by Des Périers, Descartes, Montesquieu, Pascal, J. J. Rousseau, and Voltaire; the miscellaneous writers, novelists, essayists are Guillaume de Lorris and Jehan de Meung, Louis XI. and his Court, Rabelais, La Bruyère, Hamilton, Montaigne, Scarron, Furetière, Anne de Montpensier, La Rochefoucauld, Countess La Fayette, Perrault, Perrault d' Armancour, Mme. de Sévigné, Le Sage, Vauvenargues, Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, Prevot d'Exiles, Xavier de Maistre.

The sage must have his way in his rejecting of authors that many hold dear, because he is honest in thinking that he has not excluded one who is fitted to survive, and because he has figured the cost of his ideal collection and made it $60,000. That is a liberal estimate. It takes into consideration that every book shall be a perfect example, bound by ancient artisans rather than by the moderns, with arms and signatures and book plates and "toutes les herbes de la Saint Jean." It is carefully figured. The collection shall comprise in its most valuable specimens not only the first, but the second and third, editions of the separate works and of the complete works in the case of an author like Corneille, Racine, or Molière. The first edition of the "Rommant de la Rose," printed at the end of the fifteenth century, by Guillaume Le Roy, was valued in 1860 at the Solar sale at $324, in 1867 at the Ymeniz sale at $306, in 1869 at the Baron Pichon sale at $330, 1878 at the Turner sale at $560, and in the same year at the Didot sale at $1,100. The Didot copy had the spell of Didot's ownership, and was bound by Trautz. There are no Didots now, and the passion for books is not greater than it was then, but in the estimate the book is set down at the highest price. The "Champion des Dames," written by Martin Franc, who was Pope Felix V.'s secretary, in reply to the ungallantry of the "Romance of the Rose," was valued in 1860 at the Solar sale at $280. in 1878 at the Didot sale at $226, and in 1878 at the Turner sale at $580. There is no reason why Morgand should ask $800 for the Turner copy, that is, no reason other than that he may get the price, but in the estimate the price is set down at $800 because the sage has a regard for the nervousness which will make one pay too much to a bookseller rather than to wait for an auction sale. The "Galliot du Pré Villon," 1532, was sold in 1853 for $100, in 1860 for $102, in 1880 for $180, in 1882 for $300. That last copy was bound by Thibaron-Joly, and was the property of Guy Pellion. Fontaine made Kamensky pay $200 for the François Juste, 1535, edition of "Guillaume Coquillart," but at his sale in 1881 it fetched $76. Philippe Pigouchet's Gringoire, the "Chasteau de Labour," the poet's first and best work, printed for Simon Vostre, bookseller at the sign of St. John the Evangelist, in 1500, was valued at $80 in 1878 at the Didot sale, and the "Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles" of Louis XI. and the gentlemen of his Court, the handsomest book of the fifteenth century typographically and the most elegant of style, fetched $1,200 at the Solar sale in 1860. In the estimate are not only the two editions of Marot's "Adolescence Clementine" for the first of which Rothschild paid $1,200, but the works of Marot printed by Dolet in 1538 and the same printed at Lyons by Constantin in 1544. Rabelais is hard to get, the Bibliothèque Nationale having an imperfect copy of the first "Gargantua" for which there is no equivalent known to be extant, and Jules Le Petit has not met with a complete first "Pantagruel," but a later edition bound with "Gargantua" and the "Pantagrueline Prognostication" for 1535, in one volume, fetched at the Sunderland sale in 1882 $1,600, and the first "Gargantua" (leaving out the Bibliothèque Nationale copy) at the same sale, $1,600; and the third book of "Pantagruel," 1546, at the same sale, $475; and the 1552 edition of the same book bound with the fourth book at the same sale, $855. The fourth book at the Potier sale in 1870 fetched $330. The fifth book, published in 1564, may not be by Rabelais but by Jean Turquet, whose anagram is at the end of an epigram on the last page, but completes the Rabelais collection and was valued in 1860 at the Solar sale at $90. The sage has relinquished all hope at procuring the Simon du Bois edition of Queen Marguerite's "Miroir," but counts on the Augerean edition of 1533, valued at $380 at the Guy-Pellion sale, and on the "Marguerites" of Jean de Tournes's edition, for which Morgand paid $480, and on the "Histoires des Amants Fortunez" of 1558, which may be worth $500, and on the "Heptameron" of 1559, valued at $300 at the Guy-Pellion sale, and on the "Tombeau," the curious collection made by Denisot of verses in praise of Marguerite in French, Latin, and Greek by contemporary poets, and containing her portrait, published in 1551, and valued at $380 at the Bancel sale in 1882. Baron James de Rothschild paid $3,000 in 1881 for the Jean de Tournes edition of Louise de Labe's works, but the copy was bound by Trautz in mosaic and $1,000 of the amount paid was due to the binding.

Sunday, March 25, 18

The sage might make an array of figures for every author of his ideal collection to prove that he has not been illiberal in his estimate, but quite the contrary, having quoted always from the great sales where books must be dearer for the sake of their owners and from the highest-priced catalogues of booksellers. He has left nothing to accident; his list was not made from the point of view of the ardent collector who knows that there are a hundred unheralded sales at the Hôtel Drouot where he may get bargains. And yet his total is $60,000, 10 per cent. higher than his addition of prices, to cover the possible "expenses of sale," which in Paris are always charged to the buyer and may be at times only 5 per cent., as in the forthcoming La Roche-Lacarelle sale, and $60,000 is not half as much as the great number of celebrated collectors have expended in forming libraries that were full of fads, lacking in system and in countless other qualities, the least of which to the bookworm is the most precious to the practical—the faculty to earn profit as well as honor.

DAVID GAMUT.

The book prices at the Hardwicke sale were equally lavish. Eliot's "Indian Bible" brought £580, and Caxton's "Game and Play of Chess" £260. Five hundred and fifty-five pounds was paid for a volume containing 12 early tracts in Spanish relating to America.

The French branch of the

—The late Xavier Marmier, Academician, happened, when buying books along the quays, to find one of his own works of travel which he had presented to a fellow author. He had written a particular dedication on the fly leaf. He bought the volume, which was still uncut, had it bound in a most beautiful and expensive style, with initials stamped in gold on the cover, and sent it back to his colleague with the following note on the fly leaf: "P. S.—You will keep this for the sake of the binding." Marmier left a thousand francs for an annual dinner for the book stall keepers, about fifty in number, in recognition of the happy moments he had spent while looking over their catalogues.

THE PERFECT BOOK.—It is said that a Spanish firm of publishers once produced a work in which one letter only got misplaced through [illegible] to have been the nearest approach to perfection that has ever been attained in a book. It further stated that an English house had made a great effort to the same end, and issued proof sheets to the universities with an offer of £50 if any error was discovered in them, but in spite of this precaution several blunders remained undetected till the work issued from the press.—*Notes and Queries.*

R--PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1890

THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

THE NEW ENTERPRISE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

What It Is Expected to Do—University Presses in Other Parts of the World—The Famous Clarendon and Pitt Presses.

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

Announcement was made not long since in the news columns of the LEDGER of the organization by officers and friends of the University of Pennsylvania of a University Press. The company has been started for the purpose of controlling under one efficient direction the present periodical publications of the University, and of establishing six additional magazines—viz.: The University Magazine (literary), the University Legal Magazine, the University Veterinary Magazine, the University Biological Magazine, the University Psychological Magazine and the University Hygienic Magazine.

The Editors and Officers.

The literary magazine will be under the direction of an editor-in-chief, who has not been named as yet, and the following staff of assistants: John S. Billings, Rev. George Dana Boardman, Henry Budd, D. G. Brinton, M. D., L. Clarke Davis, Samuel Dickson, Rev. George S. Fullerton, Horace Howard Furness, Rev. J. Andrews Harris, Hobart A. Hare, Lewis M. Haupt, Agnes Irwin, Horace Jayne, M. D., William A. Lamberton, Joseph Leidy, M. D., John Bach McMaster, James MacAlister, S. Weir Mitchell, M. D., C. Stuart Patterson, Simon N. Patten, Charlotte Pendleton, William Pepper, M. D., William Powell Wilson, Henry Reed, J. G. Rosengarten, Joseph Rothrock, M. D., John C. Sims, Jr., George E. de Schweinitz, M. D., Robert Ellis Thompson, Francis Newton Thorpe, James Tyson, M. D., Herbert Welsh, William W. Wiltbank, Horatio C. Wood, M. D., and Stuart Wood.

The law magazine will be edited by A. Sydney Biddle and H. La Barre Jayne, assisted by a number of Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and other professors of the University Law School. Dr. Jayne will establish and edit the biological journal; Dr. J. McK. Cattell and Professor Fullerton will have charge of the psychological publication, and Dr. John S. Billings and Dr. S. G. Dixon of the hygienic journal.

The project will comprise, it is announced, in addition to the press proper, a large bindery and an agency bureau, which will undertake systematically the marketing of all publications issued by the company.

The capital stock is said to be $100,000, to be increased before long to $200,000. The following officers were recently elected: President, Stuart Wood; Treasurer and Solicitor, H. La Barre Jayne; General Manager, A. L. Hummel, M. D.; Board of Directors, Provost Pepper, of the University of Pennsylvania; Joseph H. Cofrode, J. William White, M. D., Charles C. Harrison, Stuart Wood, H. La Barre Jayne, A. L. Hummel, M. D. (ex-officio), and G. E. de Schweinitz (Secretary).

Among the stockholders, in addition to the officers, are Joseph D. Potts, Thomas Dolan, D. Hayes Agnew, M. D., Samuel Dickson, H. C. Wood, M. D., Edward Martin, M. D., John Marshall, M. D., Dean of the Veterinary Department of the University of Pennsylvania, James Tyson, Dean of the Medical Department, John H. Musser, M. D., George I. McKelway, M. D., and Samuel D. Risley, M. D. There is in process of formation, it is reported, in connection with the press, a publication fund for the printing and circulating of such valuable scientific, educational and technical books and pamphlets as cannot find sale through the ordinary channels.

The First of Its Kind in America.

The fact of the establishment in Philadelphia of this University Press is the more interesting because it may be confidently stated that it is the first press of the kind that was ever organized in the United States. A printing establishment employed more or less exclusively by a university to do its publishing work is, of course, a most common thing in this country as elsewhere. Johns Hopkins University has its printing done by Isaac Friedenwald, of Baltimore, and Professor Crane, of Cornell, writes that that university owned for years a printing establishment, which it used for printing its various matters. It is quite usual to find on the title-page of college publications in this country such expressions as: "Published by the University" and "Printers to the University." Witness recent reports of Harvard College and the University of Michigan.

A University Press, however, organized to do the printing and publish the periodicals (though not restricted to either of these) of a large university presents an idea quite new to this country. In England, at the great educational centres of Oxford and Cambridge, this idea has existed practically for several hundred years. But a University Press whose influence and reputation are worldwide, and whose coffers are full with the revenues of numerous copyrights, like both of these, is not the growth of a decade or of a hundred years. The history of the slow development through which the Clarendon Press, of Oxford, and the Pitt Press, of Cambridge, gained their present renown is an interesting one.

Cambridge's and Oxford's Presses.

Cambridge first had a press about the year 1520, and Oxford nearly at the same time. From that time at both institutions a university printer was regularly nominated. The standing of this officer was in those early years peculiar. He was ordinarily a poor student or sizar, received £5 a year salary and an additional yearly gratuity of £5, and could print, outside of the university work, what he liked, there being no censorship, and the proceeds being entirely his own. John Siebright was the first Cambridge printer and Joseph Barnes the first at Oxford. From 1525 to 1585 it is thought not a volume was printed at either university press, although the printer was regularly appointed. Later, books were published more frequently, though not at the utmost, till much later, more than 10 in one year.

About the year 1700 both universities put their presses upon a new footing. In the case of Oxford it was the receipts accumulating from the sale of the Earl of Clarendon's (Edward Hyde) History of Cromwell's Civil War—the copyright to which had been presented to the institution—that enabled the officers to systematize their printing department. This fact gave the Clarendon press its title, as the other was doubtless named after Sir William Pitt. Under the régime imposed about 1700 a board of control was appointed for each press, whose duty it became to sanction every book before it could be published. Henceforth both presses undertook specially three classes of work. In them were printed all strictly university papers—reporters, registers, announcements of lectures, etc.—each did business as a general printing concern, open to any one who wished printing done in any language, and each gradually accumulated a reserve fund with which it undertook to print valuable books of a technical kind which did not have a popular interest and therefore could not command the popular market. In the latter case the press assumed all risks and appropriated all rights, the author receiving a few copies of the book, but none of the profits, if there were any. The slow process by which the two English university presses became what they are started about 1700. The greatest printer produced by either institution was Baskerville, who lived in the last century and was a friend of Franklin. Under him remarkable improvements were effected. In the year 1852 the Pitt press had 70 compositors, 56 pressmen, 8 printing machines, requiring the work of 50 more men, and hydraulic and screw hot presses which were run by a force of 100 workmen; nearly 300 men in all. Since then the force of employés at the Pitt press has more than doubled. The Clarendon press has an even larger working force.

Plan of Management.

The management is practically the same in the case of both presses. The entire control is in the hands of a board of delegates (numbering eleven at Oxford), which is regularly appointed by the University Board of Control, subject to the limitations of college statutes. These delegates all serve in the double functions of curators and censors. The reserve fund for the publication of valuable technical works is kept in the University chest. The right to publish the Bible and Prayer Book is the greatest source of profit at present. The exact financial relations between the Universities and their presses cannot well be stated. In a business way the Oxford and Cambridge printers are behind the best private English publishers, and many of our own printing firms, although they both enjoy unlimited advertisement in the university reporters. The rates charged are higher than those given by private publishers, but this fact is much more than balanced by the much greater care taken in all work done by the Clarendon and Pitt presses. The reputation of both for accuracy and beauty of printing is almost world-wide. The latter has published pages of Syriac with absolute precision. The Greek texts of Oxford and Cambridge are famous. Men of learning are employed to go over the proofs, and if the author misses an accent the mistake is certain to be corrected. The reserve funds at both universities, which are now very large, are of great use to scholars all over the world, who, upon application to the Board of Delegates, can have articles or books on intricate subjects printed without expense to themselves. They must relinquish, however, the right to the profits, and even to more than a few copies for distribution among friends. James Martineau, whose recent book, "Types of Ethical Theory," was published through one of these funds, was presented with just ten copies of the work. The printers are allowed by the delegates to accept work coming to them through ordinary business channels, but the latter regulate this printing as well as that for which the presses were more especially founded. The applications pass through the delegates' hands, and it is they, not the printers, who give estimates.

University periodicals are unknown at Oxford and Cambridge. Remarkable papers produced by members of the faculties are published as pamphlets, with the University's sanction, or else sent to some one of the learned magazines. These latter have never been printed by either the Pitt or Clarendon press. Some of the separate colleges, however, publish papers.

Nothing Similar in Germany.

It is doubtful whether the University press, certainly the University press in its highest development as it is found at Oxford and Cambridge, exists anywhere else in Europe. In Germany there is now nothing of the kind. A Government endowment fund exists, however, which can be drawn upon for university printing in some cases. A great body of scholarly books in Germany are published now by a school of linguists known as Young Grammarians. These men employ a printer of Halle named Niemeyer and he issues grammars and dissertations for all the universities where the Young Grammarians are to be found. None of these works, however, bear the stamp of a university. Such an imprimatur, though it exists in Germany, is very rare. For a long period, when no book could be published without police authority, the universities enjoyed a special freedom of the press. This was known as Censur Freiheit.

In Other European Countries.

In France the educational system is rather different than in other countries. Lille, Toulouse, Aix-en-Provence, Douai and Paris have important law schools, and Paris, Lyons, Toulouse and Bordeaux well-known medical schools. But at none of these is there a university press. The great imprimatur in France is that of the Academy. This is greatly sought after, being the highest possible approval that a work can attain. The expression is "crowned by the Academy," which specially grants a book the right to bear that inscription.

Although there are several gentlemen in Philadelphia who are more or less familiar with Italian universities, the writer has not been able to hear from several of these of any university press existing in that country, and books published in Italy do not bear any stamp that suggests such a concern.

The title page of an Austrian book found in one of our libraries, on which appears the words, "Wilhelm Braumüller, Publisher for the King and the University," seems to suggest the existence of a university press in Vienna, but such stamps are often misleading. This one corresponds nearly to that appearing on a recent publication of the University of Glasgow—"Publishers and Booksellers to the University." Two other Scottish colleges, Edinburgh and Aberdeen, have recently issued works with similar imprimaturs upon the title pages, the former having the words "Printed and Published for the University," the latter "Printers to the University:"

In connection with the establishment of this University press in Philadelphia it may be interesting to mention that the first printing press in America was set up in 1639, at Harvard College. It was on this machine that Bishop Elliott, in 1640, printed the Bay Psalm Book, a series of versified psalms, of which the versification was not of the first order.

CORNELIS MELLYN.

A LIBRARY SENATE.

AN ASSOCIATION OF THE LIBRARIANS OF THE COUNTRY.

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 10.—The American Library Association, comprising 300 or 400 of the leading librarians of the country, has established under the name of the A. L. A. Council, a kind of library Senate, which aims to be among American librarians what the French Academy is among French scholars. The General Association elected by written ballot what they esteemed the ten leading librarians of the country. These in turn, in like manner, enlarged their number to make council number twenty. Each member serves for five years. The body has important advisory powers.

The Council selected is composed of the President of the Association, Melvil Dewey, Director of the New York State Library. Dr. William F. Poole, of the Newbery Library, Chicago, so widely known as the author of Poole's Index; Justin Winsor, Harvard University; C. A. Cutter, Boston Athenæum; Hannah P. James, Osterhout Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; W. I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library; Ellen M. Cook, New York Free Circulating Library; Frederick M. Crunden, St. Louis Public Library; J. B. Larned, Buffalo Library; S. S. Green, Worcester Public Library; R. R. Bowker, Vice-President of the Brooklyn Library; W. E. Foster, Providence Public Library; Charles C. Soule, Trustee of the Brookline Public Library; A. R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress; John Edmands, Philadelphia Mercantile Library; A. Van Name, Yale University Library; W. H. Brett, Cleveland Public Library; Mary Salome Cutler, New York State Library; James L. Whitney, Boston Public Library, and William T. Peoples, New York Mercantile Library.

THE INCIDENT CLOSED.

The New-York Times.

THREE CATALOGUES.

I.

When Léon Techener was thirteen he could compile a catalogue; at fifteen he was a bibliographer. The faculty came to him naturally, with the ambient air, in the drawing room of his father's bookshop, where every afternoon Armand Bertin, editor of the *Journal des Débats;* Charles Nodier, Librarian of the Arsenal; Sylvestre de Sacy of the Mazarine, Paulin Paris, Leroux de Liney, Baron Pichon, Francisque Michel, Brunet, met to talk of literature and bibliomania.

After the death of his father there was no bookseller in all Paris like Techener. Every day at the hour when Aurora, in her fur-lined satin gown, unlocks the covercles of the book stalls on they quays, the *bouquinistes* lifted their hats at his expected apparition. He was their best customer. When they had pleased Techener it was luck for the entire day, but it was not ill luck to displease him; he was so affable that nothing but good could be attributed to his coming. When, after a quarter of a century of regularity, he failed an hour, then two, then a day, and finally ceased to come, they learned from the whispered gossip which in Paris is never printed in the papers that Techener had been sent to an insane asylum, a "house of health," as they say. To them he had been generous, to his family a miser. He had a fortune in books, the legacy of his father; the dowry of his wife; the entire sum that Libri, "the Italianissimo," had paid in a strange humor for 3,800 volumes, appraised, packed, and delivered in an evening, invested in a library of Rotterdam; the proceeds of the "Bulletin du Bibliophile," treasured in the form of books, once sold and jealously bought back at the Yéméniz auction sale; and his family wanted bread. Mme. Techener had been heroic, but her friends had intervened, and this was the end of her martyrdom. Lately the great bibliotaph died and his books are going to the Hôtel Drouot by periodical installments.

They have in Italy the legend of Demetrio Canevari, physician of Pope Urban VIII., who painted his skin black wherever it could show through his worn-out clothing, that the money which thread to mend it would cost might be saved for the making of his magnificent books, in bindings stamped with a Greek device and Apollo in his solar chariot, that are now valued at their weight in gold.

They have in Spain the legend of the monk Vincente of Arragon, who killed the purchaser of his favorite book to regain it, and never gave a sign of repentance at his trial until it was shown by his lawyer, to his great surprise, that his favorite book was not a unique copy. Canevari was a bachelor and Vincente a monk, but Techener was a man of family. Whenever they do anything in France they do it thoroughly.

The "Catalogue des livres Précieux Manuscripts et Imprimés" of Techener's library, to be sold in Paris on the 20th and 21st of May, comes with charming naturalness, unaided by an expert's recapitulation or a literarian's presentation. It seems to say that it addresses itself only to those who know and have not to learn their alphabet of book collecting. The notes are brief and only notes that are indispensable; the plates of the most important bindings are printed separately on special paper; there are 222 entries, with full, clear descriptions, and they make an octave volume of ninety-eight pages. There is a familiar, pleasant, engaging air about it. The book lover feels that he need not trouble himself with an investigation, that the statements made are true, that there are no phrases composed to say more or less than it may be prudent to mean; it is the catalogue of a book lover's auction sale at the Hôtel Drouot.

It forms a complete library, classified classically into theology, jurisprudence, sciences and arts, fine arts, belles lettres, history. It contains the Christe Marcelli exercitations on vellum, the presentation copy to Pope Adrian VI.; the identical Speculum Humanæ Salvationis that Guichard described, bound by Trautz-Bauzonnet; a missal of the first half of the fourteenth century, from the A. Firmin-Didot collection; the manuscript decrees of the Council of Trent in the calligraphy of Angelo Massarello, Secretary to the Council, presented to Henry II., King of France, and covered with a green morocco binding in compartments, drawn and engraved by Jules Jacquemart for the "Histoire de la Bibliophilie" of the elder Techener; "Le Livre des Saints-Anges," the first book printed in Geneva, bound by Chambolle-Durn; the "Provinciales," original edition bound by Trautz-Bauzonnet, and coming from the collection of Hte. Basse, who was authoritative on all that regarded Pascal.

It contains the Jenson, 1472, "Cicero Tusculanæ Quaestiones;" Jean Fernel's "Ambiani Medicina," in a binding with the arms of Charles de Lorraine, the celebrated Cardinal de Guise; Nicole de la Chesnaye's "La Nef de Santé;" J. Auguste de Thou's copy, with his first arms, of "La Démonomanie des Sorciers;" Count Sauvage's copy of that parvenu, "Le Pastissier François," a cook book, but an Elzevir, and of the scarcest.

It offers the twenty-six water colors on vellum made by Jules Jacquemart for his work on the artistic history of porcelain; Albert Durer's "Passio Christi"; the Beckford copy of "Les Plaisirs de l'Isle Enchantée" without remarking that it contains the original edition of Molière's "Princesse d'Elide," that Molièrists may have a reward for their faithful research and not be distanced by book lovers who want Molière, but have not been to the pains of Californian Argonauts.

There are two copies of Aldus's Joannis Joviani Pontani Opera, one of 1505 bound for François I., and formerly owned by Lord Gosford, and the other of 1518 bound for Grolier and bearing his name and device; Marot, Martin Franc, François Villon, the charming Galliot du Pré Villon, bound by Joly, Coquillart, Octavien de Sainct Gelaiz, Gringore, Pernette du Guillot, Louze Labé, Desportes, in their first editions in fine bindings, and first editions of Corneille from the Firmin Didot sale, including one of the twenty copies of Rodogune printed by Mme. de Pompadour; Ballets of Quinault and Lully, Romances of Chivalry; Verard's second edition of Enguerrand de Monstrelet; one of the three copies known of L'Histoire et Cronique de Clotaire; an Aeliani de Varia Historia from the library of Marguerite de Valois; not a volume in the entire list that a book lover should not wish to possess.

II.

In 1882 the Beckford manuscripts of Hamilton Palace were sold to the Prussian Government for the Royal Museum and the Royal Library, Berlin; the contract had to be made for the entire collection, although the buyers were not wanting more than the Botticelli-Dante manuscripts. The negotiation would make an instructive and dramatic history. There was a palace in England, and it was another Sans-Souci Miller, but a modern Sans-Souci Miller, possessed of no sentimentality about his Postdam, and there was a second Frederick the Great in Germany, eager, but lacking funds for his fancy. If there had been a war between the two countries, if the palace had been in France, if there had been a treaty to sign, the ruler would have emulated Cosmo de Medici and asked for manuscripts instead of thalers. The Palace was obdurate; the Emperor overdrew his allowance. The cause was praiseworthy; there are not only judges but savants in Berlin now, and that is how an Emperor surcharged with manuscripts that he did not want for the pleasure of having manuscripts that he wanted, finds that he may more than atone for his extravagance.

To have been in Berlin for seven years has enhanced the value of the Beckford manuscripts so much that the library at Berlin may retain some of the manuscripts that it did not want for lack of funds, dispose of the others in England, and keep within its allowance for the Botticelli-Dante papers that it wanted.

At least that is the calculation, and it is well founded.

When the London *Times* expressed its regret at the transfer to Berlin of the manuscripts of the Gospels in Latin, written in golden uncial letters on purple vellum, presented by Leo X. to Henry VIII., it was not known that the work was by an Anglo-Saxon scribe. Prof. Wattenbach of Berlin studied the vellum, the punctuation, the letters, and concluded that the work, although of the seventh century, was advanced enough to be Carlovingian. And as the monasteries of Kent-Wara-Bryg, Bangor, and Lindisfarne were filled with calligraphers long before Alcuin went at the call of Charlemagne to teach calligraphy in France and Germany, the natural inference was that the manuscript could be only of Irish or English origin. Then Prof. Wattenbach searched the records of England and happily found that the Archbishop, Wilfrid of York, who flourished in 670 to 680 A. D., had the four Gospels written with the purest gold on vellum. Signor G. B. de Rossi has confirmed the fact of this Evangeliarium being the identical one written for Wilfrid, praised by his biographer, and in his epitaph preserved by Bede, and treasured in the monastery of Ripon.

Now, the attribution is so natural that it is surprising no one in England had thought of making it, and the cataloguer with pardonable enthusiasm, suggests that the inscription, which is not good enough to be Italian of Pope Leo's Court; the arms, which are thoroughly of English style, and the ornament, which cannot be Italian, were drawn by Hans Holbein.

The Bestiarius, Lauchert has found more complete of text than any other and supplying in some parts the unknown Latin original of Pierre le Picard.

And the examples of Carlovingian, Irish, Flemish, Burgundian, and French miniaturists have gained by the studies of Wattenbach, Von Seidlitz, Lauchert, Springer, and Zangemeister.

Messrs. [illegible]otheby, Wilkinson & Hodge publish the catalogue of the collection to which they [illegible] made additions, well noted, and not un-[illegible] a "Catalogue of manuscripts on vellum, chiefly from the famous Hamilton collection, and till lately in the possession of the Royal Museum of Berlin." The day of sale by auction is fixed for Thursday, May 23, unless private contract intervenes.

The catalogue contains ninety-one lots in seventy-nine pages, with some reproductions of title pages. It is modest, concise, free of bombast, and invaluable.

III.

We have given to the world "Bibliotheca Excellentissima!" It is not laughable, it is pitiful. New-York does not lag so far behind Paris and London in appreciation of art and letters that it may be regarded as ignorant, accessible to gasconade, worthy of charlatanry, and not protest. It protested.

"Bibliotheca Excellentissima" must go on record as making the saddest figure of all auction sales in the memory of book lovers.

ICONOPHILISM.

It is not difficult to tell how you caught the malady. You were collecting engravings for a favorite book and found portraits by S. W. Reynolds of Mrs. Billington, Miss Nelly O'Brien, and Mrs. Siddons, and a Bartolozzi's Lady Smith, which made you wish for a collection of portraits of women. As you were making it your liking for Bartolozzi gave you the idea that it would be well to form a complete collection of his works, and then why not of the entire English school, and then why not of others? Being a book collector, you could apply your knowledge of the value of tall and uncut copies and first impressions to your new idea, but you had to lament the lack of a print-collector's Brunet, and the manuals that you could get were either awfully dry and technical or voluminous, as Bartsch's "Peintre-Graveur," in 21 octavo volumes and a quarto atlas. Mr. J. Maberly, who had been a collector, realized the need of a handbook, and published in London in 1844 "The Print Collector," wherein were treated without the brilliancy (or what passed for brilliancy) of Dibdin and Nodier when treating of books, but simply and clearly the classification, the selection, the prices, the limit of collections, the care of prints, and the way to become an expert about them.

There was not in it a chapter written to stimulate you, as does the bibliographical "Decameron" or a turbulent dissertation in Paul Lacroix. Mr. Maberly did not fill his book with names of great ladies and swells and scholars and three-tailed bashaws to hold up to your vanity the promise of their companionship in a society of iconophilists. If you were not an enthusiast his style would not make you one. He made a practical book of good advice, and when Mr. Robert Hoe, 40 years after, thought of telling his experience as a print collector for the advantage of others, to edit Maberly's book and publish it, with notes, Fielding's treatise on engraving, an account of contemporary etching and etchers, and a bibliography of engraving was his judgment of how the work should be done. The Philistine who got it and was moved by the pretty sentiment in the preface to the American edition that "man may sometimes acquire too much power or too much money for his own advantage or for the good of his fellow-men, but true art is like true religion—the more it is cultivated the richer are the heart and mind of its possessor"—looked critically for the first time at his engraving of "Washington Crossing the Delaware."

If the Philistine reads his manual carefully it would be well, but he does not, for lack of time he says, and because, however cautious he may be, and even by reason of his usual cautiousness in matters of business, he prefers to look for a dealer upon whom to rely implicitly than to trust to his own judgment. That would be well if all dealers were impeccable, or if he fell on one of a number of trustworthy men, but he does not, for a good reason, which is that ethics among collectors make it a point of honor with a tradesman not to tell who are his customers. The worthy tradesman keeps the secret of his patron; the unworthy tells it, and captures the Philistine with the announcement that the best-known collector in New-York has bought from him the dearest book or the most extraordinary print of his collection. Of that variety of tradesmen is the legendary individual of printshop folk lore in Europe who called one bright morning in the Fall, asked for a great pile of engravings, took them to the light one by one in true iconophilistic fashion, one hand at each of two corners diagonally opposite, rubbed out dexterously with an invisible Faber rubber the pencil-marked prices of some prints, quarreled with the salesman about the prices marked on others, coldly pointed out to him the unmarked ones as inferior, since not marked, beat down every price, beat down the total amount of the bill, gave directions for shipping and collection, and then went out with the haunted air of some Vanderdecken condemned to Wagner's music. The Philistine is the collector in the mind of the aforesaid tradesman when he tells you that he instructs his customers in bibliomania, in bibliopegy, in grangerism, in iconophilism, in the knowledge of art. And it is true that he does, for, after the Philistine has gathered a great mass of engravings and become acquainted with other collectors, he calls upon you who are not a Philistine or have been graduated to fall into raptures, and this is what he learns:

His framed engravings, whereof he had bought a great number, although he knew it was not well to buy a cat in a bag, had been "laid down;" that is, backed with paper to repair a damage, or from sheer ignorance of the fact that a "laid down" print is a disgraced print.

They had been cleaned and wore a rough surface; or had been cleaned and afterward pressed and wore an extrordinarily smooth surface.

They had been washed with India ink.

With the magnifying glass you could detect lines made with pen and ink to take the place of the abraded lines of the graver.

They had no margins or false margins which were inlaid as Toedtberg inlays a portrait.

The paper of an ancient print was without the watermark of its epoch.

They were not early, but late, impressions, from which the distinguishing traits had been erased; in one instance a long title having been removed with a penknife. It was the "Madonna del Gran Duca," by Raphael Morghen, and bore the cabalistic word "proof" in pencil on its back in the seller's handwriting.

There were copies for originals, a Flameng dipped in coffee for a Rembrandt; counterproofs, which are impressions taken from the original print instead of the copper plate, and are known to those who are acquainted with the original at a glance, the picture being reversed; and Fortunys and Seymour Hadens, Japan paper impressions, if you please, that you knew Barry had etched for the price of a week's rent.

A strange, sympathetic type, that Barry; small of stature, ill-dressed, uncouth, intelligent, and generous, claiming descent from the Gauls, and supporting a family and a rage for prints with the little money that he earned in making for dealers copies of valuable etchings. He was at heart an artist, but had to live, and when he had delivered his work he closed his eyes to its future. He died a few years ago.

And the Philistine? The Philistine made an auto-da-fé of his collection, that is, he sent it to the auctioneer's. And the tradesman? The tradesman made an anonymous contribution to his pupil's catalogue of the numbers that he had put in and bought in, firstly at the sale of a collection from the convents of Morocco, and secondly at the sale of a nobleman from Lima.

The moral of that is, that in collecting prints all is not rose-colored, and one must not think of becoming an iconophilist without the study and application required for any grave pursuit.

A print collector in earnest will never have to regret his outlay of time and money, for valuable prints shall always be valuable, and their prices in a quarter of a century have not varied more than the prices of other valuable property. One of the eight impressions on India paper of Rembrandt's "Christ Healing the Sick," called the Hundred-Gilder Piece, because it brought that price in his lifetime, was sold in 1809, in London, for £41, in 1840 for £231, in 1867 for £1,180, in 1868 for £1,100. It is true that there are only three copies of that impression out of the great museums of the world. In 1799 an ordinary paper impression fetched £12, in 1835 £163, in 1873 £106, in 1868 £124, in 1878 £80.

Marc Antonio's work is the classical model for art students. Austere critics use his name to condemn reformers like Gaillard, saying: "Are you Marc Antonio?" Art students wish Marc Antonio had never existed, and to their teachers repeat Bilboquet's speech in the "Saltimbanques": "You play the violin, young man! Can you play half as well as Paganini?" Marc Antonio's prints of the three "Angles of Farnesina" brought in 1814 £16, in 1824 £98. His "Massacre of the Innocents" in 1868 £40, in 1873 £73. In Dürer's lifetime the sixteen prints of his "Little Passion" were valued at about 60 cents; in 1878 at £42. These prices cannot but increase with the number of years. The wise collector sets his heart upon the old masters, tries to collect specimens of Mantegna, Campagnolo, Marc Antonio, for the Italian school; Martin Schoen, Albert Dürer, and Lucas Van Leyden, for the German school; Goltzius, Van Dyke, and Rembrandt, for the Dutch school; Nanteuil, Masson, and Drevet, for the French school; Hollar and Bartolozzi, for the English school; and is not content until his specimens are as perfect as may be possible.

The first lesson to teach to a print collector is distrust, and the second reserve, and there is not much of either with collectors of contemporary prints. For their desires there are unfinished proofs, trial proofs, remarque proofs, artist proofs, open-letter proofs on parchment, on Japan, on India, on white, and on special paper, and artist's artist proofs, which are not for trade, and withal little warrant that the various impressions are limited to the announced number, with less thought of their destiny, about which one may have grave doubts, because the work of many contemporary artists may not last longer than their vogue. It seems paradoxical, but it is not. The paper of the ancients was superb, and ours is miserable. It is bleached with acids, made of strange vegetable fibre, sulphate of lead, wood pulp, and no one knows what; it has neither strength nor brilliancy. The vellum is dry, the Holland paper ink-tight; the India paper bleached; the Japan paper pied. The least usage spoils it; in 25 years it becomes yellow; if washed it turns to dust. Felix Buhot's greatest concern has always been for his paper, and he has dipped it in essence of turpentine with good effect; Daubigny used Holland paper of the last century; Millet an ancient Italian paper; Jacquemart, parchment; Bracquemond, a Jansenist paper of the seventeenth century; but these impressions, of which they were justly stingy, have not gone to the public. Another consideration must be that the collectors of the next century will be wise not to approve of our taste, which is not marked by originality; it began with a copy of the ancients and may end in rococo.

The Bracquemond collectors have had agreeable news. A portrait which they had been seeking for years in vain has been proved to have never had an existence, save in the brain of Charles Monselet, the writer. He wrote in *l'Estampe* the report of a meeting between Lamartine and Bracquemond, where the former went to sleep while sitting for the artist, and the latter went out quietly not to disturb his subject. Eight days after, so runs the story, Bracquemond returned with the portrait, and Lamartine wrote under it "En écoutant Dieu" to express his gratefulness. You had every issue of Bracquemond to a book plate, to an initial for a lady's invitation card; but you did not have that portrait and did not sleep at night for thinking of it and devising plans to come to its possession. Mr. Beraldi, who is a skeptic by experience, and two or three others thought of waylaying Monselet one evening on the Pont-neuf, and they asked him his authority for his *Estampe* story. Monselet replied quietly that it had no foundation in fact, and when he was told the harm that he had done he said, with the cynicism of the unrepentant, "Wasn't it true to nature, though!"

DAVID GAMUT.

David Gamut = H. Pené Dubois?

The New-York Times, Sunday, August 18, 18

WHAT IS A FIRST EDITION?

Surely there will be an outcry of book-collectors at this item of a catalogue otherwise classical:

> "*Graham's Magazine*, vol. xxi., Philadelphia, September, October, November, 1842, Nos. 3, 4, 5. "The Spanish Student," by H. W. Longfellow. First Edition."

Even as, in law, a play may be printed but not published, book collectors who are after first editions contend that, in bibliomania, a book may be of a publication without being of an edition, or, to state the case with more apparent fairness, as Mr. Beverly Chew applies a general rule to a particular case:

> "No attempt has been made to trace the original appearance of those poems that were first published in magazines or other journals, this information being of no interest to the collector of first editions, while its addition here would unnecessarily increase the size of the book."

And Mr. Beverly Chew gives in his "Longfellow Collector's Hand-Book," conventionally faultless, the publication of "The Spanish Student," a 16mo book in glazed boards, by John Owen at Cambridge in 1843, as the first edition of that work. Strictly speaking it is not, but not one of a hundred Longfellow collectors who wrote to their booksellers for the first edition of "The Spanish Student" would accept Graham's issue of it for their order.

The learned bibliophile who defies criticism with his claim for Graham's issue has cut out of the magazine the pages of the poem, prefixed the editor's prospectus entitled Editor's Table, and in a blue Levant morocco binding by Rubany turned out a complete, but not unmixed "Spanish Student," pages of other writers having appeared at the end of the several parts in the magazine, the tail-end being a not brilliant "Child's Prayer, by Robert Morris."

One fastidious collector would have given his pages to Trent Toedteberg or Bradstreet's, the pages would have been split in their thickness, the intruding verses would have been cut off, the favored ones inlaid. Another fastidious collector would have discarded nothing, but bound the three numbers of *Graham's Magazine* for September, October, November, 1842, engravings, rebuffs to impertinent critics, fashion plates, and all, into one volume.

The latter form is the preference of Mr. George P. Philes, a veteran whose authority as a bibliographer is beyond question. To possess the first editions of E. A. Poe's "Mystery of Marie Roget" and "The Literati," he gathered the numbers of *Godey's Magazine and the Ladies' Companion* from January to June, 1846, and of November, December, February, 1842-43, and bound them with their fashion plates in a "Pompadour cartonnage," out of respect to the fashion plates.

One collector will declare that it is pitiful to have to swallow fashion plates for no other crime than a mania for Poeiana; another that it is unfair to make a book of a Bowdlerized magazine. They argue from different points of view and Paul Bourget decrees, "Sensations should never quarrel." The question is not to be passed over lightly with the familiar dictum about tastes, however.

The *Graham Magazine* "Spanish Student" is a complete work in its original form compared to the Cambridge edition; it is better finished, for the prospectus of its editor was worth keeping:

> "Of Prof. Longfellow's poems several have already appeared in this magazine. He has recently completed a drama in three acts, entitled 'The Spanish Student,' the manuscript of which is in our possession. It will appear entirely or in part in our new number. Prof. Longfellow is now abroad in quest of health. From an exquisite poem, addressed to him on the day of his departure by his friend, George S. Hillard, we quote the following stanza, joining heartily in the invocation:
>
> "'Ye gales that breathe, ye founts that gush
> With renovating power,
> Upon that loved and laureled head
> Your gifts of healing shower;
> And Jocund Health that loves to climb
> The breezy mountain side,
> Wake with your touch to bounding life
> His pulse's languid tide!'"

It is nearer the author, since it was printed from his manuscript, afterward presented to the New-York Historical Society by the editor, and the Cambridge edition was made from the magazine. It lacks nothing of the mien with which it made its first entrance, but the ground that set it off, that mayhap aided its favor by contrast, is what the psychologist desires, who treasures an entire magazine for a few pages of Poe.

The psychologist is perhaps right; in painting he would doubtless be a *plein-airist;* in literary criticism he would not impugn motives, nor condemn works for sincere opinions not his own, as the fashion was with Gustave Planche, Shelley, and even Sainte Beuve; he would take account of the surroundings. His theory probably is that, however marked may be one's temperament, one does not write for a magazine that has fashion plates as for himself. He has of a book collector the elevated opinion that his mission is to teach, and "The Spanish Student," with its environment of *Graham Magazine* literature, should be an admirable object lesson, as Zola's "La Terre" was an admirable object lesson in the ambient air of the *Gil Blas*. Probably neither work would have appeared, certainly neither work would have appeared in exactly the same form, elsewhere.

The collector who discards the surrounding *Graham* or *Ladies' Companion* literature, and the collector who insists that the first edition of a work is its first appearance under an author's own title page, plead space, elegance, ancient manners bibliographical, for what will become of us if we have to collect and bind newspapers in Levant morocco?

The prospect is not attractive. We had made our books small to fit in the miniature bookcases of our miniature apartments. We regarded all large books as curiosities that were better placed in museums and public libraries. We had not counted on an invasion of newspapers and magazines in our bibliomania. Now, most authors are first published in folio papers and voluminous monthly reviews, and to follow the psychologist in his documentary collectioning, the largest room of the Astor Library would not be too large; but the psychologist is consistent.

You cannot have all the works of a modern author without some journals, and even if you discard journals at first you must admit them as unique editions. Browning's diatribe against Fitzgerald, for example, is doubtless never to be reprinted. If the *Athenæum* publication of it is not its first edition, what is it? The Browning collector may cut it out of the paper and bind it with a great number of heavy blank pages, but will assuredly prefer the issue of the *Athenæum* as it was, rather than the mere extract.

Then, although the "Longfellow Collectors' Hand Book eschews magazines or other journals, it adopts the "Miscellaneous Poems Selected from the *United States Literary Gazette*," Boston, 1826, containing fourteen poems by Longfellow, and valued at $20 by collectors, when, logically, the volume is of less value as a Longfellow book than the *Gazette*, the poet having had no part in its publication. Probably, if his wishes had been consulted, he would not have consented, since only five of the fourteen poems selected by the *Gazette* found their way in subsequent editions of his works.

Mr. Beverly Chew, however, himself a wise bibliophile, is in touch with Messrs. E. B. Holden, C. B. Foote, N. Q. Pope, Louis J. Haber, Calvin S. Brice, and others, patient Longfellow collectors, but not great hunters of his poems in journals and magazines.

The sympathy of the ancient book collector is with them, but anciently there were men who wrote books and men who wrote newspapers and magazines, whereas now no great author has enough regard for bibliophiles to avoid publication in a *feuilleton*.

The French are not at all troubled with this question; their first editions are of books, no matter how often first publications were in *revues* and daily papers, but the *Figaro* recently gave an unpublished poem of Hugo, whereupon Mr. Beraldi in Paris and Mr. Jolly-Bavoillot in New-York, in treasuring the paper quoted La Fontaine's "Un tiens vaut mieux que deux tu l'auras," an axiom which, it would not take a very great casuist to show, is the fundamental idea of the newspaper first edition collector.

The Longfellow collector, whose conscience does not clamor at his neglecting newspapers and magazines, wants only thirty-seven books, unless he cares for the grammar and language books of the professor, but he ordinarily does not. The code lets him dispense with these, which are seven in number. The thirty-seven books comprise forty-three volumes. The bulkiest of these, "Poets and Poetry of Europe," Philadelphia, Carey & Hart, 1845, 800 pages—a parlor-table book for parlor tables that are resplendent with Shakespeare complete in one volume, "Innocents Abroad" and "Pilgrim's Progress"—is the least interesting. The thinnest, "Poems on Slavery," Cambridge, John Owen, 1842, thirty-one pages, is the scarcest, and is quoted at auction at $25.

The first two parts of "Outre-Mer," Boston, Hilliard, Gray & Co., 1833, and Boston, Lilly, Wait & Co., 1834, are worth $40, while the work complete, published by Harper & Brothers, in two volumes in 1835, may be obtained for $9.

"Coplas de Don Jorge Manrique," Boston, Allen & Ticknor, 1833, the first separate publication containing two sonnets, "Nature and Art" and "The Two Harvests," not reprinted fetched $18 at its last public sale.

"Hyperion," two volumes, New-York, Samuel Colman, 1839, is quoted at $15, a price that applies also to "The Voices of the Night," Cambridge, John Owen, 1839, the first original poetical work.

"Evangeline," Boston, William D. Ticknor & Co., 1847, is scarcer, and at its last public sale fetched $40.

The Longfellow Collectors' Hand Book is ignorant of a large paper copy of "The Seaside and the Fireside," Boston, Ticknor, Reed & Fields, 1850, in glazed boards. The copy which I saw had the author's *ex dono* to Mrs. Jameson, and cost its owner $25.

One who fancies that the task of a Longfellow collector who disregards newspapers and magazines is not arduous should make the experiment; the uninitiated who come to a treasure-trove of Longfellow books should defer to the criticism of a Longfellow bibliophile. For there may be rarer things in the world than perfect books, but not rarer than Longfellow books in their collectors' view, and deeper knowledge to fathom than of the make-up of a perfect book, but not for one who has not had the experience of a bibliophile.

A patriotic American who admired Longfellow and had leisure and wealth could do for Longfellow what the Viscount Spœlberck de Louvenjoul, a Belgian book collector, did for Théophile Gautier, gather perfect copies of his books, newspapers, and magazines, his manuscripts, letters, autographs of every sort, the various portraits that were made of him, the translations of his works, the criticisms which were printed at the time of his editions and after his celebrity, obituaries, every document nearly or distantly related to his work, and the task would be lighter than was M. de Louvenjoul's, but not less agreeable, instructive, and glorious.

DAVID GAMUT.

---

* * *

A syndicate of wealthy French Jews has offered $200,000 for the Hebrew Bible in the Vatican. For this Book, generally conceded to be the most valuable in the world, the Hebrews of Europe have more than once made offers in the century past, one of the offers being its weight in gold for the famous Bible; but it is understood that the Pope cannot legally sell it without the authority of the Congregation of the Propaganda.

* * *

---

pictures of chained books and shelves are Wm Andrews "Curiosities of the Church" (x6567.C.)

SOMETHING ABOUT OLD BOOKS.

Rare Editions Are Not Picked Up for Little Cost at Old Shops.

There is a common impression that bibliographical treasures of great rarity are to be picked up at the second-hand book shops by any one familiar with the lore of old books, and frequent accounts may be read of old books being bought for a song and afterward sold at fabulous prices. Nothing is further from the truth. Dealers in old books are usually so well posted on the value of their wares, and there is such a demand for valuable books, that the collector who is only influenced by a desire to strike a sharp bargain has very little chance nowadays.

There was a Frenchman here some years ago who displayed with great pride some first editions of the poems of Alfred de Musset he bought in a Philadelphia shop. In Paris they would have brought a hundred times the price he paid for them, but then it happened the dealer did not recognize their special value.

The general public are firmly convinced that the older a book the greater its value. With the exception of books printed before the year 1500, which usually command a fair price, the reverse is just as true, and it may as well be said the older a book the less it is worth. The genuine book lover is above these mercenary considerations, but some answer must be given to people who are constantly writing that they have a book written in 1702, and want to know how much it is worth. It usually turns out to be a work on theology, valueless alike to the collector, the divine or the would-be speculator, and destined only to fill valuable shelf room in some library and prove a torment to librarians who have to transcribe its long, unmeaning title.

There is a class of books that have rapidly appreciated in value during the past few years, and which are likely to remain long in favor among American collectors. They are the first editions of American authors, such as Poe, Emerson, Longfellow, Hawthorne and their fellows. It seems more than a mere fad to care for these unpretentious volumes. They mark the birth of our distinctively national literature, and what American is there who does not know them and take pride in them? And yet the high prices at which they are now rated on dealers' catalogues are largely due to the cleverness of two brothers named Leon, who kept a little cigar shop near the old University building in Washington Square, in New York city. They sold books as well as cigars, and started the rage for collecting first editions of American books, publishing a catalogue in which they offered great rarities, but at enormous prices.

"I knew them very well," said a Philadelphia book buyer. "One of them was a thick-set man with a full light-brown beard and calm, blue eyes. He had rather a sorrowful way and seemed like a wonderfully clever man. He spoke Russian, he said, and Hungarian, and his English and French were unexceptionable. I liked to talk with him for he was well informed and told me much about European politics. I looked him up the other day when I was in New York, but when I asked for Mr. Leon the polite Frenchman, who was keeping shop, told me he had gone back to Poland. 'Oh, monsieur,' he said, 'he was not Leon. That was only a name he took, for he was a nobleman and so proud. One, you know, went to Siberia, but he got away and came here. There was an amnesty last year and they both went home.' So there is some romance left in the trade in old books after all."

Ledger July 17 '89

by Stewart Culin?

To Remove Spots from Books.—Grease spots, if old, may be removed from books by applying a solution of varying strength of caustic potash upon the back of the leaf. The printing, which looks somewhat faded after the removal of the spot, may be freshened by the application of a mixture of one part of muriatic acid and 25 parts of water. In a case of fresh grease spots, carbonate of potash (one part to 30 parts of water), chloroform, ether or benzine renders good service. Wax disappears if, after saturating with benzine or turpentine, it is covered with folded blotting paper and a hot flat-iron put upon it. Paraffine is removed by boiling water or hot spirits. Ink spots or rust yield to oxalic acid, in combination with hot water; chloride of gold or silver spots to a weak solution of corrosive sublimate of cyanide of potassium. Sealing wax is dissolved by hot spirits and then rubbed off with ossia sepia.—*American Book Maker.*

Smell of Musty Books.

London Letter in Chicago News.

One of the assistants of the British Museum tells me that visitors to that institution frequently have a hard time getting "acclimated" to the place. An hour spent in the rooms invariably gives the visitor (for the first time) a headache. Sometimes it is only after repeated visits that one is able to indulge his researches without carrying away a headache with him. Women seem to be particularly sensitive to this curious malady, which is said to arise from the peculiar odor created by the storage of so many books. You can get some idea of what this odor is by going to your bookcase, that has been closed for twenty-four hours, and opening one of the doors; immediately your olfactories will be greeted by the mustiest fragrance imaginable. Bibliomaniacs profess to love this odor, and many declare that they cannot value a book unless it has about it that unmistakable and ineradicable smell which infects a volume when once it has crossed the sea in the hold of a vessel.

False Pretenses.—The Aberdeen Library Committee, in a note to a report, said that "a small devotional book entitled 'The Best Match' was called for and quickly returned sixty-five times by readers, chiefly of the feminine sex"; but that "this was hardly to be taken as a proof of the popularity of that particular work, or of the exceptionally devotional character of the library readers. Rather it was to be taken as one of the many cases where,

BIBLIOMANIA IN FICTION.

Criminality in Book-Madness, With Some Facts About the Disease.

In "Two Pinches of Snuff," Harpers' Franklin Square Library, Mr. William Westall has produced a novel of unusual interest out of the most unpromising material. The story is a study of a bibliophile, genial by nature and studious by habit, who resorts to forgery and murder for the acquisition of rare books. Dr. Royden, according to his cousin, a Manchester banker, is not in business, unless being a bibliophile—collecting old books—is a business. An Englishman, he lived at Dresden, thinking nothing of making a journey of a hundred miles or so to pick up some rare edition, and going to every book auction in the country. "I know nothing," he said, "so gratifying as being able to pick up a prize in some out-of-the-way place, after which you have been hankering perhaps for years, and a book auction where scarce editions are sold is one of the most exciting things I know—as exciting as gambling, I should say." Among his treasures was a black-letter folio, "Cronica van der hilliger Stat van Cœllen," printed in 1499. "I know," he would say, "there are but three copies in England, and I don't think there are more on the Continent. It is worth at least twenty-five pounds. And this, 'Cronica von Allen Kaysen und Kunigen,' printed at Augsburg in 1476, is worth even more—perhaps forty pounds. Here, again, is a book, one copy of which has been sold for a hundred and fifty pounds, though I got this for much less, owing to some doubt as to the authenticity of the binding—'Diane de Poictiers,' printed on vellum, Paris, 1550. Do you notice how beautifully it is bound in old brown calf and how richly ornamented? These are the arms of Henry II.; here are Diane's bow and crescent. This is the fleur-de-lis, by Roffet le Faucheux."

Mr. Westall has hit off the talk of the book-hunter to perfection. "Why, it is absolutely unique," exclaimed Dr. Royden. "I do not think there is such another Koran either in the British Museum or the Paris Library." * * * "The writing is simply perfect, but so minute that it cannot be read with the naked eye, and the illuminations—just look at them!—are superb; I never saw their equal. And the best is, I got it for nearly nothing—a hundred marks—about five pounds."

The plot of Mr. Westall's bibliographical novel turns upon two crimes which were perpetrated by the aid of two pinches of snuff. One day a stranger presented a check at the counter of Bolder & Baxendale's Bank, at Manchester, and to prevent a too close scrutiny opened a gold snuff-box and asked the chief teller to take a pinch. The lid was ornamented with the ghastly device of a skull and cross-bones, inlaid in ivory and ebony and an equally suggestive motto: "Memento mori." Months afterward Herr Both, a Dresden banker, was knocked down while alone in his bank and robbed of municipal bonds to the amount of 20,000 marks. When the banker recovered consciousness he remembered a customer—a stranger—who had offered him a pinch of snuff from a gold snuff-box with an effigy on the lid in ivory and in black letters the words "Memento mori." The criminal in both cases was the same Dr. Royden, to whom forgery and even murder had become possible through the mania for rare books.

That book hunters will steal goes without saying. All public libraries suffer from book thieves, and valuable works are often mutilated by print collectors. Even men of large wealth have been known to be incorrigible book and print thieves. Dr. Royden was one, and it was not many days after he exhibited to his friends his precious prize, the Koran of the thirteenth century, that a criminal investigator came to Dresden from Berlin to ascertain if the Doctor had in his possession a copy of "Cicero de Finibus Bonorum et Malorum, first edition, 1471, folio, Venetiis, Joannes ex Colonia, illuminated and bound by Bizet, with the arms of Prince Eugene," and a manuscript Koran, "exquisitely written and ornamented, and believed to be one of the copies made in the thirtieth year of the Hejireh, by order of the Caliph Othmar." Dr. Royden had them. He had stolen them from the Library at Berlin.

It may seem strange to the ordinary book-buyer that the biblomaniac should allow the passion for old books to make him criminal. It is not surprising—his passion is a species of madness, even when it is innocent. Few of the men who have gathered large libraries are scholars—they are only book cranks. Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt some years ago paid $1,200 for a copy of "The Bay Psalm Book," the first book printed in this country. Only two copies are known besides this one—one in the Bodleian Library, London, and one in the Lenox Library, New Yo[illegible]. The Vanderbilt copy belonged to the Crowninshield Library, in Boston, which was bought by the late Henry Stevens, the American bookseller, in London, for $10,000, mainly to secure this one book. After being held by Mr. Stevens for several months it was offered to the British Museum for £150. The Keeper of the Printed Books, however, never had the courage to send it before the trustees for approval and payment; so after waiting five or six years longer the volume was withdrawn, bound by Bedford, again brought to America in 1868 and sold to Mr. George Brinley for 150 guineas. The history of the others is even more interesting. That in the Bodleian library had lain there unrecognized for generations, and even in the printed catalogue of 1843 its title was recorded without distinction among the common herd of Psalms in verse. The book bears no name of place or printer, the imprint being simply "Imprinted 1640." "I," wrote Mr. Stevens, "had handled it several times with great reverence and noted its [illegible] peculiar

Dr. Bandinel, Bodley's librarian. We thought that when we had secured a copy for ourselves it would be time enough to acquaint the learned doctor that he was entertaining unawares this angel of the New World." The Lenox copy was bought at the auction of Pickering's stock in 1855 for nineteen shillings. It, however, was not perfect, four leaves being missing; but George Livermore, of Cambridge, Mass., had an imperfect copy from which he contributed the necessary four leaves to Stevens' copy, much against the wishes of Mr. Crowninshield, who said "they would enable Stevens to complete his copy and place it in the library of Mr. Lenox, who would then crow because he also had a perfect copy of the 'Bay Psalm Book.'" This completed book was sold to Mr. Lenox for £80.

An imperfect copy of Dickens' "Strange Gentleman," one of the rarest of his productions, was recently bought by a small bookseller in England for 3d. By him it was sold for 15s. to a young man in the trade, he in his turn disposing of the book to another person for £1. This last knew the value of his prize and, in spite of its being imperfect, resold the volume for £5 to a well-known firm of booksellers, who now want somewhere about £12 for it. A perfect copy is worth £20. The folly of the craze for rare books, merely because they are rare, could not be better illustrated. Intrinsically, Dickens' "Strange Gentleman" is dear at 3d. A complete set of the original editions of Dickens is considered very cheap at $600 and it has been held as high as $1,350. But not only are first editions of Dickens much sought after, but early copies of the works of Shelley, Poe, Hawthorne, Whitman, Thackeray and even Willis command high prices. Their value is purely fanciful; but that one book collector's food is another's poison is shown by a story of Shelley's worthless skit, "Posthumous Fragments of Margaret Nicholson." A collector who made it a point to collect only books written by women discarded it from his library when he ascertained that it was a man's, but at auction it brought £53 because it was Shelley's.

In the rare book craze, as in everything else, fashion helps to determine what is rare. This is especially the case with what is called Americana. A sharp bookseller can set the fashion if he goes about it and the collectors are sure to help him to cheat them out of their money. Among the sufferers by the Polish insurrection of 1863 were three brothers, one of whom was sent to Siberia, the others being thrown into prison. When the youngest was released he came to New York and [illegible] unpromising kind in Washington Square. He also dealt in second-hand books, the place being half cigar shop and half book stall. In 1875 the brother next in age came out and took charge of the cigar business, while the other devoted himself to developing the book trade. Finally the oldest brother was allowed to return from Siberia and he, too, joined the others, who by that time had gathered a very good stock of first editions of books by American authors. When the family estates were restored the Leon brothers determined to go back to Poland, but before going they issued a catalogue of their stock, fixing fanciful prices to all kinds of rubbish. That catalogue, which was in fact a little joke of three Poles, is now used by American booksellers to fix the market value of trash that, but for the fashion which the Leon brothers created, would not be saleable at all.

If the caprice of a bookseller can create a demand for rubbish—if such trash as Shelley's "Alactor," Poe's "Tamerlane" and Whitman's "Leaves of Grass" can command extraordinary prices—if the first editions of the works of men still living or but recently dead are bought at fictitious prices—it is not surprising that a bibliophile, such as Dr. Royden in "Two Pinches of Snuff," should become criminal through his passion for books that are really rare. Nothing of the kind sought after by Royden ever turns up in an American book store. It is for this reason, perhaps, that American booksellers call books rare, because nobody ever cared for them and that lunatics buy them because they are said to be "scarce." If an American novelist wants a bibliophilistic hero he will not have far to look for one.

MADISON.

"Some Colineus praise, some Bleau,
Others account them but so so;
Some Plantin to the rest prefer,
And some esteem old Elzevir;
Others with Aldus would besot us;
I for my part, admire Sinibaldus."

Swift on "Oxford & Cambridge
Miscellany" (published by Fenton

— " —

"The Bookworm" — see Parnell's
poem.

THE BOOKWORM DOES NOT CARE FOR NATURE.

I feel no need of nature's flowers—
  Of flowers of rhetoric I have store;
I do not miss the balmy showers—
  When books are dry I o'er them pore.

Why should I sit upon a stile
  And cause my aged bones to ache,
When I can all the hours beguile
  With any style that I would take?

Why should I haunt a purling stream,
  Or fish in miasmatic brook?
O'er Euclid's angles I can dream,
  And recreation find in [illegible]

Why should I jolt upon a horse
  And after wretched vermin roam,
When I can choose an easier course
  With Fox and Hare and Hunt at home?

What if some vicious bull were loose
  Or fractious cow pursue my path?
A tamer Bulwer I would choose,
  A Cowper destitute of wrath.

Why should I watch the swallow flit,
  And run the risk of butting ram?
A Swift upon my shelves Hazlitt,
  I need not run from waggish Lamb.

Why should I scratch my precious skin
  By crawling through a hawthorn hedge,
When Hawthorne, raking up my sin,
  Stands tempting on the nearest ledge?

No need that I should take the trouble
  To go abroad to walk or ride,
For I can sit at home and double
  Quite up with pain from Akenside.

—*Irving Browne in The Critic.*

While quaint old Elzevir is
reckoned better
Than pirate Hills' brown check and
scurvy letter
While Grant admires careful Aldus'
choice
Before John Morphew or the Weekly
News

Antiquary (1077 l. Q.) vol. XI.
p. 133 article Hills the pirate
printer

"A church without a library
is a fortress without ammunition"
See Roquefort [illegible]
(500 a. 30. O.) p. 15
~~quoting~~ — in the year
1170.

For Cromwell's way of encouraging
libraries see "Antiquary" (1077 l. Q.)
vol. 12. p. 274.

— " —

For Franklin's idea of connecting
libraries with education see
Columbian Mag. Oct. 1790 p. 214

— " —

"And clerkes kepeth the librarie
Which longeth to the seintuaire"
"Confessio Amantis" (1428 l. O.) p. 14

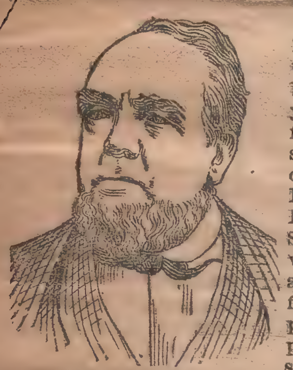
A FAMOUS BOOK STORE

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF AN OLD PHILADELPHIA ESTABLISHMENT.

ITS INTERESTING HISTORY

A Wonderful Collection of Old, New, Rare and Curious Works.

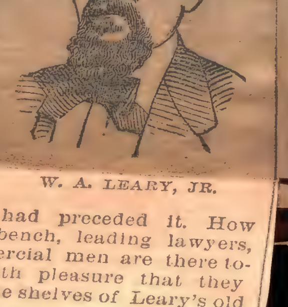
"Watson's Annals of Philadelphia" tells of many old landmarks of early Philadelphia and of many of the earlier people of note in the city. It is an authority on Philadelphia matters and an extremely interesting book to read. Mr. Watson, its author, was one of the habitues of Leary's old book store a half a century ago, from which place he gleaned many facts for his work. The founder of that famous book store, W. A. Leary, is still in the city. The elder Mr. Leary was seen by a reporter of THE TIMES yesterday. From him was gleaned the following facts:


W. A. LEARY.

It is upward of fifty years since Mr. Leary came here a young man. He is a native of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and began the old book business in Philadelphia with a small stock, scarcely worth two hundred dollars. He is now a hale and hearty retired book merchant beyond three-score years and ten and his familiar face can be seen almost any day on the streets. Mr. Leary founded Leary's Old Book Store at the southwest corner of Second and New streets. Before many years had passed he became a publisher and his store was widely known throughout the city and neighboring country. Second street was the business boulevard of Philadelphia in those days. It was the home of the retail shops of the city. The farmers from contiguous sections crowded its stores and the man who wanted to drive a sharp bargain wended his way to that busy thoroughfare. Mr. Leary was one of the pioneers in a business that had already become famous in London and Paris. Near his store was the old Camel Tavern, with its swinging sign and a notice that entertainment for man and beast could be had within its hospitable doors. The old tavern and its big court-yard has disappeared and scores of other landmarks in that locality have faded out of sight. Said Mr. Leary yesterday, with a touch of sadness: "I am the only business man of that day in the whole square who is yet in the land of the living." But the old book store did not disappear altogether. After two changes in location it has become not only famous, but one of *the* famous resorts of the city, just the same as Independence Hall and other localities of "ye olden times." Many of the old customers of Leary's book store were men of note in the Quaker City. Some of them wore the knee breeches and cutaway coat, with their hair done up in a queue.

SOME OLD HABITUES.

It is pleasing to have Mr. Leary recall recollections of the old store. The late Ex-Mayor Alexander Henry, Elisha Kent Kane, the Arctic explorer; Nicholas Biddle, David Paul Brown, Professor Gross, Dr. Pancoast, Senator Charles Sumner, Senator Justin S. Morrill, of Vermont; Henry Sharswood, the father of Judge Sharswood; Rev. Mr. Mann, the father of Colonel William B. Mann, who was a Methodist clergyman; Jacob Ridgway, the elder; William E. Burton and William Wood, the actor; Edwin Forrest, the tragedian; Watson, the author of Watson's Annals of Philadelphia; Judge Conrad and scores of others were frequently seen poring over books on his well-laden shelves. Commodore Stewart (Old Ironsides), the grandfather of Charles Stewart Parnell, spent two hours down on his knees one day in looking over some old pamphlets. "He was always rummaging around," said Mr. Leary. "I remember Judge Kelley, the veteran Congressman, as a studious-looking youth who frequently came into the store. I once sold Mr. Swain, one of the publishers of the *Public Ledger* in those days, twenty-one volumes of Dobson's Encyclopædia for $40. That paid for a year's advertisement of my store in the paper. He often came in to look at my books and was well pleased with his purchase of the Encyclopædia. Judge Jones, the Mayor of the city, was a daily visitor. He used to tell me it was a treat to come there and get away from the politicians. I sold thirty or forty books of my own publication by subscription only in those days and had scores of canvassers in different parts of the country. Fleetwood's "Life of Christ" was the most successful book. I disposed of 100,000 copies of that work in one year. There were not as many old books bought and sold then as at present. I was more particularly posted in school books and sold hundreds of old-time copy books for penmanship practice. On the outside covers was a picture of my store and the old Camel Tavern alongside of it. School teachers as well as the pupils were my patrons in large numbers."

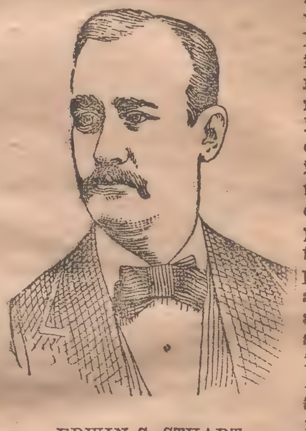

W. A. LEARY, JR.

Many a gray haired man of family tells his children how his father pored over the books in Leary's old book store. When the elder Leary retired from business twenty-one years ago, and his son, W. A. Leary, Jr., opened the establishment at the southeast corner of Fifth and Walnut streets, it was found to be a much more desirable location. Second street had been invaded by the wholesaler and the jobber. There were more users of books in the neighborhood of the new place. Its reputation had preceded it. How many Judges on the bench, leading lawyers, professional and commercial men are there to-day who remember with pleasure that they drew inspiration from the shelves of Leary's old book store?

THE PRESENT PROPRIETOR.

"One morning eighteen years ago," said Mr. Leary, "a tow-headed stripling of fourteen walked into Leary's Old Book Store for a job as an errand boy. He had seen an advertisement in the *Ledger* that a boy was wanted in the store. He got the place. He is to-day and has been for some years past the proprietor of Leary's Old Book Store. He did the chores and swept out the store, just the same as Colonel B. K. Jamison did some years ago at his well-known banking house, at Third and Chestnut streets."

An old gentleman well acquainted with the elder Leary said: "While the younger Leary was the proprietor the founder of the house was frequently looking around his son's place of business and it was not long before the present proprietor made his acquaintance. One day the elder Leary saw the lad in the store and gruffly calling him he pointed to a book that was upside down on one of the shelves and said: 'What is your name, youngster?' 'Eddie Stuart,' was the prompt reply. 'Well, Eddie, won't you hold me on my head while I read the title of that book?' It is needless to say that the book was properly placed and the boy kept a sharp lookout for upside-down books after that. The health of W. A. Leary, Jr., failed in 1871, necessitating his retiring from the business."

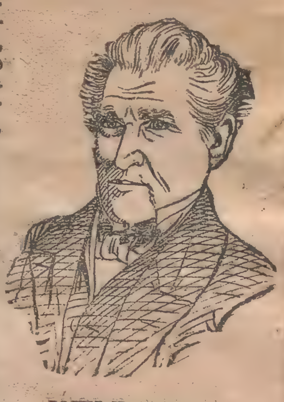

EDWIN S. STUART.

The elder Leary said: "Edwin S. Stuart was that tow-headed boy. He soon gained a thorough knowledge of the book traffic and was made general manager. Upon the death of W. A. Leary, Jr., in 1873, he purchased the business from the estate. How well Leary's Old Book Store has come into greater prominence since that period is known in Philadelphia and all over the country. It is due as much to the remarkable executive ability of its present proprietor as to his keenness and perception in buying and selling books and the judicious skill he has exhibited in advertising. Leary's Old Book Store is now a landmark of Mr. Stuart's native city. The new proprietor had not been long in charge of the old stand at Fifth and Walnut streets before he saw the necessity of getting into more spacious quarters. Like himself, the business was growing and the tendency of trade was westward."

A REMOVAL TO NINTH STREET.

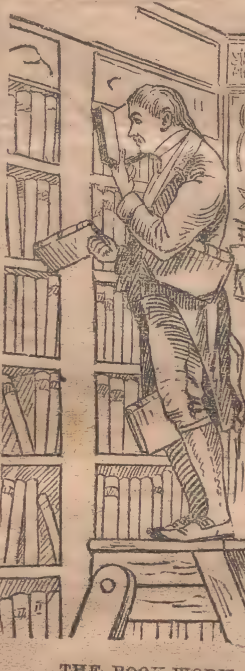
The old Perkins property, No. 9 South Ninth street, opposite the new Post Office, was purchased in 1877. The structure was remodeled and Leary's Old Book Store removed there. Since that time the three stories have been increased to four and a half stories and the entire building lengthened twenty-five feet. Eleven thousand square feet of books, or between two and three hundred thousand volumes, are on the shelves.

To go into details as to what kind of books can be found there would be almost an endless task. If anybody in America, or, in fact, any other quarter of the known world, wants a book, old or new, ancient or rare, he or she can get it, if it is extant, by writing to Leary's Old Book Store. Its present proprietor is also a publisher as well as a dealer in books. Watson's Annals of Philadelphia, in three volumes, the standard history of the Quaker City, is published at Leary's Old Book Store. It has had an unprecedented sale, and is sought after by Philadelphians more than any other work of its kind. Whole libraries are often purchased, and hence old, rare and curious books are constantly on hand. Works that have been read and re-read by distinguished men are to be found in the store, many of them in duplicates. One of the best all-around working libraries ever bought by the present proprietor was that of the late Dr. Shelton MacKenzie, for many years one of the editors of the *Press*. During the Centennial year Leary's Old Book Store sold nearly three thousand dollars' worth of books to the Detroit public library. Some of the first books that were placed in the Ridgway Branch of the Philadelphia Library were purchased for the library by Mr. Stuart. A club, literary society, a village, town or city can be supplied with a library of any number of volumes, from a hundred to a hundred thousand. Book hunters at a distance need but correspond with the proprietor and their wants and wishes will have the same careful consideration as if they were buying personally in the store. Sunday school committees have frequently called at the store and had their wants supplied quickly and without trouble. Over five hundred libraries of this character have been supplied.


JOHN F. WATSON.

A MODEL BOOK STORE.

One of the peculiar features of the immense establishment is the system and order that is everywhere apparent. There is a place for every book and every book is in its place. The book is not upside down, either, so that the acrobatic feat of standing on one's head to read the title is not necessary. Complete sets of standard authors are always on hand and in the holiday seasons works of this character are sold by the thousands. A large proportion of the books in every department of the store are new, but the price at which they are sold is far below what they can be obtained for elsewhere. Many of these new books on sale were taken in trade from the publishers, who purchase rare and curious books at Leary's Old Book Store. The collection of works of every conceivable character in the store is one of the most complete in the world and so admirable is the discipline among the attendants that everything works like a well-oiled piece of machinery.


THE BOOK-WORM.

It is doubtful whether the best regulated public library in the world has a more skilled class of attendants than here. A prompt reply is always given to the book hunter and his wants immediately supplied. In the basement, which is spacious and well lighted, is the school-book department. On the first floor rare and miscellaneous works are found. On the floor adjoining is "Americana," where can be seen every book relating to early American history and the civil war. Here also is the Sunday school book department. On the second floor front all the theological, legal, medical, mechanical and trade books. The third and fourth floors are used as stock rooms, where there is also a packing and distributing department, where books that are coming and going are arranged and distributed. There are no dark and dingy holes and corners in the store, no piles of books and pamphlets that cannot be reached without trouble or that would require a purchaser to rummage around to find what was wanted.

In the rear of the first floor is the sanctum of the proprietor. It is a cosy office, lighted by a handsome stained-glass window, which took the prize at the Novelties Exhibition last year. On the window is represented the familiar Old Bookworm so admirably drawn by Sir Walter Scott in "Guy Mannering." The old seeker after knowledge is standing on a ladder in the library, immersed in a volume which he has just taken down from one of the well-filled shelves. He has a book under his arm, one between his knees and a third in his right hand. The Old Book-worm is the sign or trade-mark of Leary's Old Book Store. Fifty years of uninterrupted prosperity has brought the famous store up to its present proportions. Who can tell what will be its career between the present time and the day of its centennial celebration, half a century hence? It is not only the store before all other stores of its kind in the country, but it is also a pre-eminently old book store. Its founder looks with pride upon the steady growth and enormous proportions which younger blood has infused into its business life, while every Philadelphian is pleased with the fact that no other city can boast of such a store with such an uninterrupted record of business prosperity.

Curious binding of books is made [illegible] in [illegible] See Fitzgerald's Book fancier p 37

— " —

Alcuin's verses over his Library & catalogue of books - See Morley's English Literature (32480.D.) vol. 2. p. 160

"Of all pursuits in Paris made
The bookseller's the losing trade
How poor indeed must he be [illegible]
The poor can't buy the rich can't read"
Monthly Mirror Oct. 1798

Chained books.
"Old Yorkshire"
vol 1 p 15?
57720.D.1

A Distinguished List of Book Canvassers.—Bonaparte, when a lieutenant, unemployed at the capital and too honorable to duplicate his pay accounts, took the agency for Boulanger et Cie., the noted publishers of the Pont Neuf, for a work entitled "L'Histoire de la Revolution." Bonaparte tried to secure from the publishing company the whole department of La Vendée, but he was only given a suburban Parisian arrondissement. In the *foyer* of the great palace of the Louvre, amid countless bric-a-brac of the reign of Louis, the great monarch, can be seen to-day, under a glass case, the little canvasser's outfit of the great emperor, and within it the long list of names which his assiduity secured. George Washington, while surveying Fairfax county in his youth, canvassed for "The London of Stoke-on-Trent Square, American Savage: How He may be Tamed by the Weapons of Civilization," and sold over two hundred copies in and around Alexandria, Virginia. Jay Gould sold books as an agent. Mark Twain sold books as an agent. Longfellow sold books as an agent. Daniel Webster paid his second term's tuition at Dartmouth by acting as local agent in Merrimac county, N. H., for De Tocqueville's "America." Bret Harte was a book agent in the fall of 1849 or spring of 1850. General Grant, subsequent to his resignation from the army, before his venture on the Dent farm, took part of the territory of a general agent of Putnam's to dispose of Irving's "Columbus." Ex-President Hayes footed it all over southern Ohio, when a mere lad, getting subscriptions for Baxter's "Lives of the Saints." Blaine began life as an humble canvasser in Washington county, Pa., selling a "Life of Henry Clay, the Mill Boy of the Slashes." Bismarck, when at Heidelberg during a winter vacation, having had his allowance cut short by his father, the baron, canvassed for one of Bl bach's handbooks.—*Boston Transcri*

is A STORY told on Hon. H. C. which has not as yet been made property. It is said that, during the ng of the great fire in which Mr. Struve with all the rest of Seattle was a heavy loser, he rushed up into his office to save some of his most valuable books. It is well known that he had accumulated a vast amount of material which he purposed working up into a history of Washington. This material and some of his books were very precious to him. So as the fire came sweeping down toward his office he rushed up stairs and began to select the books most valuable. "Ah, this one I will save. No, I guess this one is more valuable." Thus he hesitated, and among his many books, all of which were dear to him, he was unable to decide which ones to save. Just then the cries of firemen were raised, and the Judge was urged to come down and save his life. Being thoroughly alarmed and still undecided, he turned and grabbed the first book in reach and rushed out of the building. Reaching the pavement he found he had saved—the city directory.—*Seattle* (*Wash.*) *Press.*

HOV DO IT IN NE

WHEN JAMES J. CORBETT WAS POMPADOUR JIM

HUMPHRIES TELLS HIS EXPERIENCES WITH EX-CHAMPION

Remember when Pompadour Jim Corbett, former San Francisco bank clerk, came out of the Golden West to lift the heavyweight crown off the ageing head of the great John L.? Joe Humphries, famous fight announcer, does, and in this installment of his series in the SUNDAY NEWS he tells of his first meeting with Corbett.

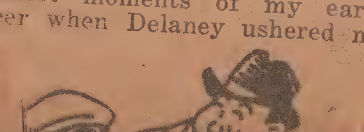
By JOE HUMPHRIES.
As told to HARRY NEWMAN.

The first peek I got at Jim Corbett was when the handsome pompadoured boxer arrived in this town shortly after his victory over the great John L. I was but a kid at the time, and Jim was showing at Poole's theatre, then located in Eighth street, near 4th ave. Of course Corbett didn't know I was in the town, but you can bet I was the first kid in line to make a break up those rickety gallery steps to see the greatest fighter of his time.

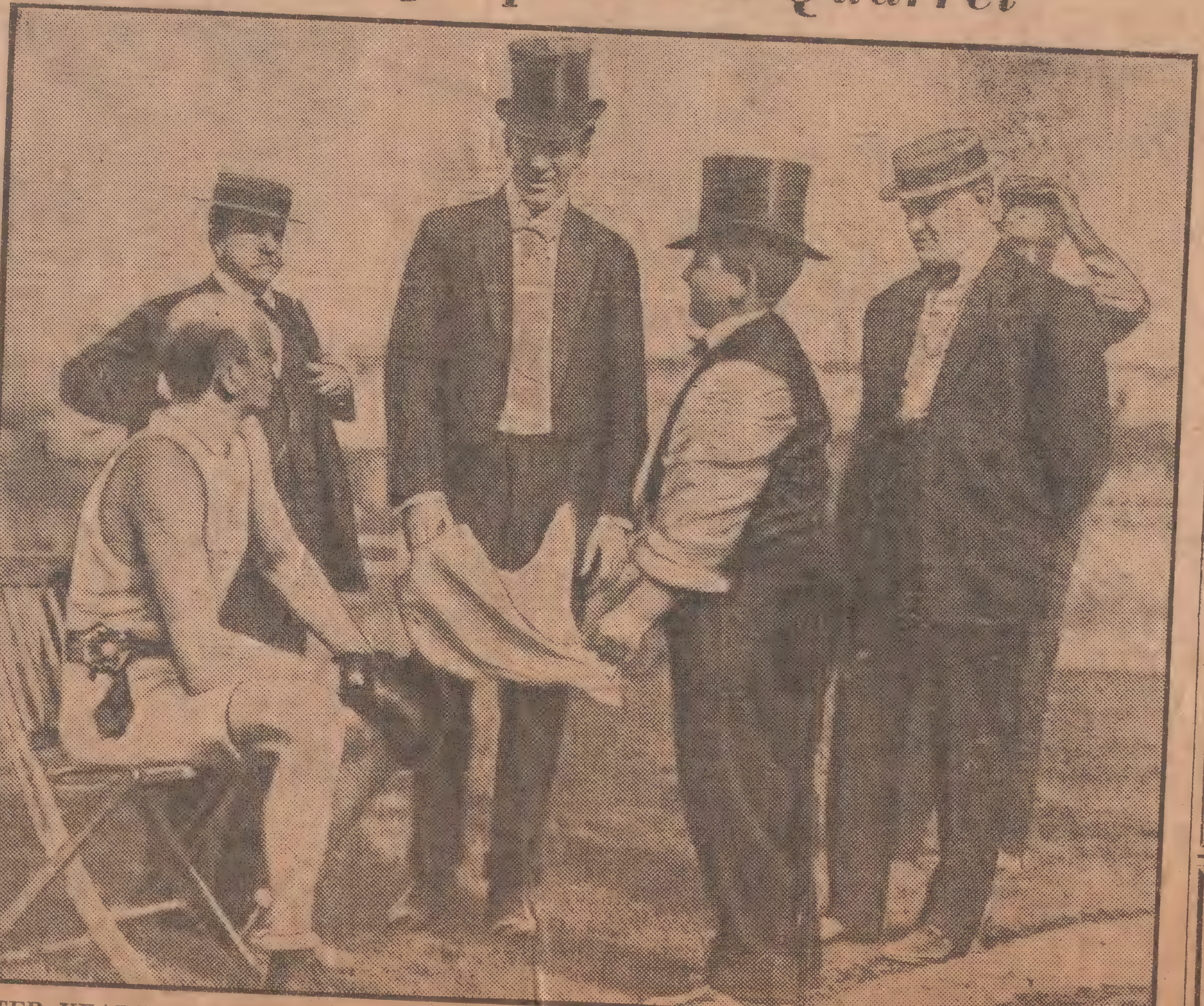
My first meeting with Jim Corbett was at Interlaken, outside Asbury park. I think the year was 1886, but Jim was there training at Billy Brady's place for a fight with Bob Fitzsimmons. Incidentally that fight didn't take place at that time for the reason that Fitzsimmons stumbled into a sheriff down at Hot Springs, and the fight had to be postponed.

Meeting Corbett.

It was Billy Delaney who took me to see Corbett. And I want to tell you that it was one of the proudest moments of my early career when Delaney ushered me



Patching Up an Old Quarrel



AFTER YEARS OF BITTER ENMIT-. Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons have first friendly meetin at benefit for Actor's Fund, held at New York baseball park. Photo shows Corbett (in high hat) talking with Fitz (dressed for exhibition bout), while Tony Pastor and Joe Humphries look on.

I can almost hear Corbett now, speaking in his confident tone about being able to beat Bob Fitzsimmons. But Jim told the party he had a strange presentiment that Fitzsimmons

friends after that. The next time I met Corbett was when I introduced him from the ring at Con

America, held at the old Polo Grounds or the old Yankee field. was doing the

I stumbled into him a few months ago returning from Newark on the night of the Walker-Jones fight. Jim was sitting alone on the train, wearing those large trick tortoi shell glasses. Not a soul in t car recognized the former he weight champion of the wor he gave me the big mit greeted him.

"Hello there, Joe, old Jim as he took off the "You're just the guy I see. Where do you get off all the boys I'm 60 years o listen, Joe; I'm g the lowdown on born in San Francis 1866, and I stand 6 fee height, and my weight is pounds. Do you get that? Now, you lay off me and my age. That's me, Joe."

And as the train pulled into the station Jim gave me a whack on the back with his big right hand and scurried off with the agility of a kid.

In next Sunday's SUNDAY NEWS, Joe Humphries co tinues to tell of Jim Corb the cleverest heavyweight ever drew on a glove, an thrilling battles he had Jim Jeffries.

Radium Is Resto Health to Thous

The wonderful curative Radium has been known However, the benefits of this health-giving substance have past been only within the means persons of wealth.

Since the invention of Degnen Radio-Active Solar Pad, any man woman, poor or

---

Books That Are Popular Out West.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Librarian Dyer, speaking of the purchase of books, said: "'Ben Hur' is the most popular book we have ever had; that is to say, it is the one read the most. We bought one hundred copies of it, and there are always a number of people on the waiting list. The day we moved the library we found only three

---

ASTOR LIBRARY READERS

TRADITIONS OF THE BIG BUILDING ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.

EMINENT MEN WHO HAVE USED THE

---

around in the darkness, they were gradually

He found the fiddler walking around

DONAGHEE GALLOPS HOME AT BOWIE

BOWIE RESULTS

FIRST RACE—For two-year-olds; claiming. One mile. Purse $1,300. Time—
6. At post 1:00; off 1:12. Start poor. Won driving; place same. Winner—B. c., 2,
Omar Khayyam—Virginia. Trainer—M. C. Kelley.

ters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
	107	2	5	6^h	5^2	1^h	$1^{1½}$	L'bgold	$16.70	$9.50	$5.40
	105	8	2	1^1	2^2	2½	2^2	Bruening	—	23.60	18.80
	96	9	4	2^3	1^3	3^3	3^3	L. Lang	—	—	6.80
Mar	115	11	8	8^1	7^2	4^2	4^2	O'Donnell	—	—	—
	100	7	12	9^h	10^1	9^1	5^5	Williams	—	—	—
	88	12	10	7^1	3½	5^1	6^h	J. Stevens	—	—	—
	109	10	3	5^h	8^1	8^1	7^5	C. Lang	—	—	—
No	108	4	1	4^2	6^h	7^1	8^1	F. Stevens	—	—	—
	93	13	9	3½	$4^{1½}$	6½	9^1	Marinelli	—	—	—
elle	94	5	6	11^5	9^1	10^1	10½	Hudgins	—	—	—
rave	88	6	11	10^1	11^2	11^{10}	11^{20}	Jones	—	—	—
E.	88	1	13	13	13	13	12^3	Brown	—	—	—
	106	3	7	12^4	12^4	12^3	13	Accardy	—	—	—

r. Wilson entry.
atched—Clutha, Grace Troxler, Wave Crest, Westover, Transformer, Glen Lass.

ECOND RACE—The Tip Top Handicap. For two-year-olds. Six and a half fur-
s. Purse $1,400. Time—1:20 3-5. At post 1:42; off 1:43. Start good. Won
sily; place driving. Winner—B. c., 2, by Rapid Water—Mattie Bereaud. Trainer—
. H. Stotler.

Starters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
Laddie Buck	112	5	1	1^5	1^3	1^3	1^3	Weiner	$34.80	$14.20	$7.60
Dangerous	114	3	9	9	9	3^h	2^h	Barnes	—	7.60	4.70
Danby	108	9	2	2^1	2^2	2^2	3^2	Stutts	—	—	7.30
Sumpter	115	7	8	7^2	5^3	4½	4^1	Coltiletti	—	—	—
Harlan	110	2	4	4½	4^h	5^6	5^{10}	C. Lang	—	—	—
Faddist	108	8	3	3^2	3^3	6^{10}	6^{10}	Marinelli	—	—	—
Finland	110	1	5	5½	6^3	7^h	7^h	O'Donnell	—	—	—
Cloudland	120	4	6	8^4	8^h	9	8½	Butwell	—	—	—
ow and Easy	109	6	7	6½	7^2	8½	9	Williams	—	—	—

*Woods-Stockton-J. S. Cosden entry.
Scratched—By Hisself, Flagship, Emissary, Judge Fuller, Campfire Tales, Panic.

THIRD RACE—The Oriole Handicap. For three-year-olds. Seven furlongs. Purse
00. Time—1:28. At post 2:12; off 2:13. Start good. Won easily; place driving.
ner—B. g., 3, by Ballot—Galloping Queen. Trainer—A. L. Denny.

rters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
Brush	109	5	1	2^4	1^1	1^2	$1^{1½}$	C. Lang	$4.50	$3.00	$2.50
er	105	4	4	3½	3^4	3^{10}	2½	F. Stevens	—	3.90	2.50
G.	103	2	2	1^h	2^4	2½	3^{10}	L. Lang	—	—	2.60
	105	3	3	5	5	5	4^3	Marinelli	—	—	—
	102	1	5	4^{10}	4^{10}	4^2	5	Hudgins	—	—	—

ched—Donaghee, Prince Hamlet, Tester.

RTH RACE—The Sunset. For three-year-olds. One mile and seventy yards.
,400. Time—1:48. At post 2:41; off 2:42. Start good. Won easily; place
nner—Ch. g., 3, by Sir Martin—Sweet Brier. Trainer—W. Irvine.

s.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
e	106	2	2	1^1	1^h	1^2	1^2	C. Lang	$4.00	—	—
	107	1	1	3	3	3	2^5	L. Lang	—	—	—
II.	107	3	3	$2^{1½}$	2^2	2^3	3	Marinelli	—	—	—

ed—Noel, Bonnie Omar, Initiate, Prince Hamlet, Batonnier,

RACE—The Gadsden D. Bryan Memorial Handicap. For all ages. One
$10,000. Time—1:42 1-5. At post 3:13; off 3:19. Start good. Won
driving. Winner—B. c., 3, by The Curragh—Mabel Strauss. Trainer—

	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
	110	1	1	5^1	4^1	1^5	1^3	Sharpe	$13.40	$8.50	$6.10
en	109	11	3	10^5	9^1	2^3	2^5	Stutts	—	7.80	5.80
sk	96	10	12	8^1	3½	5^4	3^h	Hudgins	—	—	7.50
sh	116	8	2	12^2	12^1	8^1	4^2	Coltiletti	—	—	—
	104	12	9	7^1	10^1	4½	5^1	Williams	—	—	—
ation	112	6	10	6^2	7^2	6^5	6^2	Fields	—	—	—
Counsellor	123	15	4	9^1	8^1	7^1	7^1	O'Donnell	—	—	—
ce Hamlet	98	13	15	15	14^2	14^1	8½	Pierce	—	—	—
efield	94	2	13	13^5	13^2	13^1	9^1	H[illegible]ntamer	—	—	—
	[illegible]	5	5	4^3	2^3	3½	[illegible]	Lang	—	—	—
								Lang	—	—	—

EASILY BEST OF LARGE FIELD IN BRYAN MEMORIAL

By AL COPLAND.

Bowie Race Track, Md., Nov. 22.—Donaghee galloped off with the kale in the Bryan Memorial handicap here this afternoon and won $7,730 for his owner, J. W. Bean, of Washington. Princess Doreen, the best three-year-old filly of the west, was second and Harry Payne Whitney's Miss Whisk, third. The winner paid a trifle less than 6 to 1 and won by three lengths, with five separating second and third. Fifteen raced through the mire for this stellar Bowie stake, which was somewhat marred by a poor send off, in which Miss Whisk was all but left.

First round the paddock turn in the mad scramble for positions were Shuffle Along, Volante and Worthmore. Midway up the backstretch Bonnie O'Mear ranged up alongside Shuffle Along, with Miss Whisk tearing through the others like a real race mare.

Straightened away for the stretch run it was virtually all over but the shouting when Donaghee opened up a five length lead. It was then the middle runners came along and smothered all the early leaders except Donaghee.

Considering the vile track conditions Donaghee's time—1:42 1-5—was a brilliant performance.

* * *

The Lang brothers—Chick and Chicklets—had the Sunset purse to themselves at the finish of this mile and seventy yards race when they respectively piloted Joy Smoke and Opperman through the muck to beat Lieutenant II., the only other starter.

Chick Lang H. P. Whitney
Double winner at Bowie and owner of Miss Whisk.

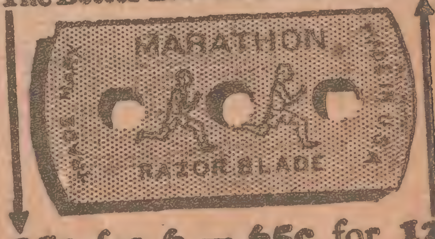
ARMY-NORWICH GAME CALLED OFF

West Point, N. Y., Nov. 22.—The Army-University of Norwich game was called off because of rain here this afternoon. Authorities waited until the last minute, but finally were compeled to call off the battle. The new army stadium field was covered with a foot of water at time for the game to start.

CLOUDBANK WINS FROM BIG FIELD

Manchester, England, Nov. 22.—J. White's Cloudbank won the November handicap here today from a field of seventeen horses. W. M. G. Singer's Daimyo finished second with J. Hull's False Alarm third.

The Better Blade at Smaller Cost



35c for 6 — 65c for 12
NOW ON SALE AT RETAIL STORES

Starters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
Connie Omar	10[illegible]										
Sunsini	111	4	11	11³	11²	[illegible]					
Fraternity II.	102	5	14	14²	15	15	[illegible]	Mathews	—	—	—
Volante	90	14	8	2³	6h	10¹	13½	Harvey	—	—	—
*Shuffle Along	116	9	6	1¹	1¹	11½	14⁵	Marinelli	—	—	—
†Worthmore	114	3	7	3½	5½	9¹	15	Barnes	—	—	—

*A. C. Bostwick entry. †F. A. Burton-J. S. Ward entry.

Scratched—Senator Norris, Setting Sun, Plough Boy, Senalado, Harlan.

SIXTH RACE—For three-year-olds and upward; claiming. One mile and a sixteenth. Purse $1,300. Time—1:51. At post 3:50; off 3:53. Start good. Won easily; place same. Winner—Ch. h., 5, by Lough Foyle—Beth Stanley. Trainer—J. Bauer.

Starters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
The Roll Call	112	4	5	1¹½	1²	1½	1⁵	Marinelli	$7.90	$3.70	$2.70
Marsdale	106	1	2	5	4¹	2¹	2⁶	Weiner	—	4.40	3.50
Guelph	116	2	1	2½	2h	3¹	3³	Coltiletti	—	—	3.00
Eager	101	3	4	3¹	3h	4³	4¹	Harvey	—	—	—
K. O'Neill II.	103	5	3	4¹	5	5	5	McTague	—	—	—

Scratched—Procyon, Maxie.

SEVENTH RACE—For three-year-olds and upward; claiming. One mile and three-sixteenths. Purse $1,300. Time—2:06 4-5. At post 4:26; off 4:27. Start good. Won driving; place same. Winner—Ch. f., 4, by Sandbar—Hannah Louise. Trainer—F. Whiite.

Starters.	Wt.	P.	St.	¼	½	¾	Fin.	Jockey.	Straight.	Place.	Show.
Rosa Yeta	107	4	5	2²	2¹	2¹½	1¹½	Harvey	$11.50	$5.20	$3.60
Rupee	114	5	3	1²	1²	1½	2⁴	Marinelli	—	3.30	3.00
Little [illegible]mmie	98	1	2	4⁶	3h	3h	3³	McTague	—	—	5.70
Gray [illegible]	114	2	1	5²	5⁶	4³	4⁴	Tamaro	—	—	—
Hick [illegible]	106	7	8	8	7¹⁰	5½	5⁵	Leyland	—	—	—
Old [illegible]	106	6	4	3h	4²	6⁵	6⁶	Pierce	—	—	—
Ow[illegible]	101	3	7	7¹	6½	7¹⁰	7²⁰	Huntamer	—	—	—
F[illegible]tchman	96	8	6	6¹	8	8	8	Hudgins	—	—	—

Scratched—Fornovo, Mary Agnes, Trevelyan.

PAAVO NURMI TO SAIL FOR AMERICA

Paava Nurmi, Finnish runner, will sail for America on Dec. 5. His tour of the United States is to be handled by the Finnish-American Athletic club.

FAMOUS RACE

The famous St. Leger race, which was run recently in Doncaster in the north of England, is not only a big sporting event, but one which from first to last has added not less than $5,000,000 in profits to the municipality of Doncaster.

Hair Stays Combed, Glossy!

"Hair-Groom" costs only few cents a jar at any drugstore and makes even stubborn, unruly or shampooed hair stay combed all day in any style you like.

"Hair-Groom" is a dignified combing cream which gives that natural gloss and well-groomed effect to your hair—that final touch to good dress both in business and on social occasions.

"Hair-Groom" is greaseless; also helps grow thick, heavy, lustrous hair. Millions use it! Beware of greasy, harmful imitations.

HAIR GROOM
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
Keeps Hair Combed

STRONG HEWAT VIRGIN WOOL FABRICS

Made up into big, roomy Ulsters—absolutely pure virgin wool—warmth without weight. I have these right inside the door of my store, made up during the dull season to keep help employed, ready to wear out at a price of **$15.00**

I have cut these up to 50 breast so all customers can be fitted at a uniform price. On a rack inside my door. Be your own salesman. Overcoats ready to wear. **$15.00**

Uncalled for SUITS as low as **$12.00**
Uncalled for TROUSERS .. **$2.75**

MITCHELL the Tailor

1431 BROADWAY, CORNER 40TH ST.
111 NASSAU ST.
2 COLUMBUS CIRCLE
Open Evenings

Books That Are Popular Out West.
From the St. Louis Republic.

Librarian Dyer, speaking of the purchase of books, said: "'Ben Hur' is the most popular book we have ever had; that is to say, it is the one read the most. We bought one hundred copies of it, and there are always a number of people on the waiting list. The day we moved the library we found only three

---

ASTOR LIBRARY READERS

TRADITIONS OF THE BIG BUILDING ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.

EMINENT MEN WHO HAVE USED THE

---

around in the darkness, they were gradually working southward

---

library when he was seeing [illegible] of New-York, and he acknowledged the courtesy shown him in imperial fashion by presenting his portrait—a photograph—with his autograph affixed.

Perhaps the oddest [illegible] is that the authors of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and of *Three Men in a Boat* have very small bands of supporters. Yet surely they are popular, if anybody is popular, at present. In the whole affair women are extremely prominent, as indeed they richly deserve to

into the presence of the handsome fighter and said "Jim, I want you to meet a kid friend of mine from the big city who has just started out in the boxing racket."

Corbett was an affable fellow and shook my hand warmly and told me that he hoped some day he would have the pleasure of hearing me announce his presence in the ring.

I remember that Corbett trained in an outdoor gymnasium with Billy Delaney in charge of his stable of sparring mates. There was Steve O'Donnell, who stayed with Corbett many years. Duncan McDonald was another member of Corbett's staff, as was Kid Eagan, a clever youngster at that time.

I couldn't keep my eyes off Pompadour Jim—Corbett wore a pompadour in those days—and what a marvel he seemed to me. Light as a leopard on his feet and moving with the grace of a finished artist, he made a wonderful impression on my young mind that day at Interlaken as he cuffed his various sparring partners about as he pleased.

Jim had about finished his training for the day when a party of friends arrived. They included Jack McDonald, the famous bookmaker; Al Smith, who was known all over the world as stakeholder for all principal bouts in the old days, and Joe Vendig, probably the best known turfite of his day.

Then there was Doc Ordway, the American representative of the National Sporting club of England. I had better mention that Charley Thorley, the millionaire sportsman, was there, in company with Billy Muldoon, the present boxing commissioner. Corbett shook hands with the entire party, and was most cautious when they plied him with questions and asked them about his condition.

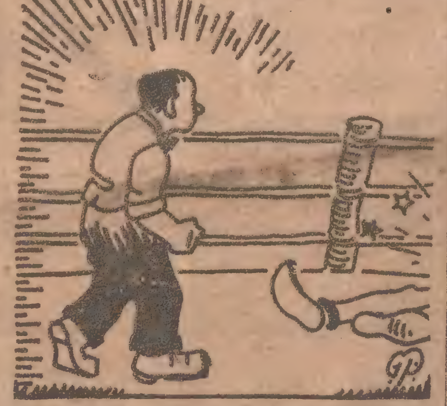
in his intentions to meet him, and that all his training would go for nothing.

I ate up every word he said. Strangely enough, Jim's predictions came true and the bout had to be postponed when Fitzsimmons steered himself into the path of John Law. Of course, Bob met Jim later, but it had to be arranged all over again.

A Lucky Hunch.

My next meeting with Jim Corbett was when George Green, who, by the way, was the original Young Corbett, was matched to box at the old Manhattan club in this city. Green was to meet any suitable opponent selected by the matchmaker of the club, Billy Newman. Corbett, who was looking after the affairs of Young Green at that time, was playing in a piece called "The Naval Cadet" and did not arrive at the club house until just before the start of the fight.

They had selected three opponents, namely, Tommy West, Joe Harmon and Billy Vernon, the Haverstraw brickmaker. I was standing at the head of the stairs, waiting for Corbett, and before any one knew of his arrival, I rushed up to him and reintroduced myself. I told him of the three men selected to meet Green, and advised him to pick Vernon, as I thought West and Harmon were too tough. He agreed with my suggestion, and was tickled to death when Green knocked out Vernon in the fifth round.



The big fellow was very much enthused over Green's victory, and thanked me earnestly for my help in the matter. We became great

Island on May 1, 1900. It was at the time of his famous battle with Jim Jeffries, in which Corbett was trying to regain his title.

I can't understand to this day why that match wasn't made for twenty rounds instead of twenty-five. If it had been twenty rounds, Corbett would have won back his title that night, for he had Jeffries beaten all the way for twenty-two rounds. But in the twenty-third Old Jeff nailed him and knocked him cold. I was the first one in the ring that night to carry the stricken Corbett to his chair.

My next experience with Corbett was the night I announced him with Kid McCoy for their battle at Madison Square Garden. That was on the night of Aug. 30, 1900, one day before the passing of the old Horton law. Immediately after that battle Corbett sailed for Europe, but returned a year later and went into vaudeville.

I recall that Corbett was appearing in Chicago during the same week in which I was there with Terry McGovern playing in a show called "The Road to Ruin." Jim never finished the week in Chicago for the reason that the old Sam T. Jacks theatre, in which he was appearing, was damaged by fire.

End of Old Feud.

Corbett paid us a visit and got to be a great pal of McGovern's. There was quite a gathering in a saloon back room adjoining the theatre that afternoon. I remember that Dan Stewart, the old fight promoter; George Siler, the referee; Ed Smith, Lou Housman and many other prominent sporting men were present.

In later years I often met Corbett at the field day events for the benefit of the Actors' Fund of

these occasions, and it was a great satisfaction to me to see Corbett walk over and shake hands with his conqueror, Bob Fitzsimmons, who was giving a boxing exhibition with Sailor Burke.

Old Tony Pastor was acting as referee for the exhibition, and I feel safe in saying it was the first real friendly meeting between Fitzsimmons and Corbett since their fight at Carson City, March 17, 1897. They had been bitter enemies for years.

I've always had a warm spot in my heart for Jim Corbett, who, I think, was one of the greatest fighters that ever drew on a glove.

lief from suffering and disease.

Degnen's Radio-Active Solar Pad is worn next to the body day and night. It pours a constant stream of radio-active energy into the system while you work, play or sleep, helping to build up weakened nerves and tissues to a strong, healthy condition. It creates a vigorous circulation of blood, thus removing congestion, which is the real cause of most diseases.

To prove just what this remarkable treatment can do for you, we will send our appliance on trial with the understanding that we will not charge you a cent if it fails to give satisfactory results. This offer is open to any person who has pain of any kind, nerve weakness, high blood pressure, stomach, kidney or liver complaint, bladder trouble, or disease of the lungs or heart.

No matter what your ailment or how long you have had it, we will gladly let you try the appliance at our risk. Write today for free literature giving complete information. Radium Appliance Co., 1403 Bradbury Bldg., Los Angeles, Calif.

MEN!

FINAL CLEAN UP
DIRECT AT OUR
Wholesale Showroom
Open Until 9 P. M. at Night

Heavy Winter
OVERCOATS
TOP COATS
2 PANTS
SUITS
$15

$25 HIGHEST QUALITY CLOTHES $30
1 AND 2 PANTS SUITS, OVERCOATS.
Retail Values up to $65
Finest Custom Tailoring, Woolens and Worsteds,
styled for College Men, Professional and Business Men

Open Nights SINCLAIR Open Nights
Manufacturers of Better Grade Clothes
1 WEST 34TH STREET
One Flight Up—Near 5th Ave.—Open Nights Till 9 P. M.

Books That Are Popular Out West.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Librarian Dyer, speaking of the purchase of books, said: "'Ben Hur' is the most popular book we have ever had; that is to say, it is the one read the most. We bought one hundred copies of it, and there are always a number of people on the waiting list. The day we moved the library we found only three copies on the shelf. When 'Les Miserables' first appeared fifty copies answered the de-

---

ASTOR LIBRARY READERS

TRADITIONS OF THE BIG BUILDING ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.

EMINENT MEN WHO HAVE USED THE LIBRARY—ODD CHARACTERS AMONG

---

also have been seen at least four
ents of the United States—Van Buren,
ore, Pierce, and Buchanan. On the eve of
inauguration as Vice President Chester A.
hur here had recourse to books in order to
liarize himself with the details of previous
inaugural ceremonies, being inspired by a gentleman's instinctive desire to act well his part. It was somewhere near the same time that a visit with anything but an attractive face whiled away several hours of every day

---

The New-York Times, Sunday, June 6, 1886.---

POSTMEN OF THE PLAINS.

I.

There was formerly in common use a postage stamp imprinted with the device of a postboy mounted on a well conditioned pony that, with streaming mane and tail, galloped at a slashing pace *ventre à terre*, as the French have it, across the face of the stamp. Probably many a lad, looking at that stamp, has thought to himself: "What fun it would be to be a postboy! Nothing in the world to worry one, but only to sit on a fast horse and gallop along a road." Perhaps older persons may have received all their information concerning mail carrying on horseback from the lively courier of the stamp.

The writer's acquaintance, gained in several Western States and Territories, with the mounted postman's calling is not suggestive of such a gallant design. The picture that comes before my eyes is of a very sorry horse, or perhaps a mule, underfed, overworked, just able to jog along at the rate of four or five miles an hour, and spurred to that gait by a rider who alternates the vicious digs of his heels into the animal's sides with oaths and growls at the luck which compels him to be on the back of such a snail-begotten beast. Nevertheless, if the postman of the Plains—for I write of the mail carriers whose routes are the trails of the great plains eastward of the Rocky Mountains—if these postmen had nothing more irksome to undergo than an absence of speed from their horses' legs, their occupation would be comparatively enjoyable.

Although the railways are rapidly cutting down the length of such routes, there yet remain some which run for hundreds of miles through regions where one might travel for weeks without seeing a human habitation if the well defined path—"the main trail"—were avoided. And on the lines themselves the Post Offices are frequently far apart—from 50 to 100 miles or even more—with few or no interlying settlements. Where the embryo towns are thus separate, and no convenient ranch is by the road, it is usual to establish, at distances of about 25 miles, stations where horses are changed and riders get their meals. But, to save station keepers' wages and other expenses, the distance between stations is sometimes increased to an extent most unsatisfactory to man and horse. It was under such conditions that the writer got his first knowledge of the mail carrier's course of existence.

My ride was 65 miles long. At one end was a country store with the usual combination of hotel, Post Office, &c. At the other end was a station—a den, I might say more accurately. The den was simply a "dug-out," about 8 feet by 6 on the floor and not over 6 feet in height between floor and ridge pole. An angle of the walls served as a fireplace, and a hole in the roof surrounded by a few stones acted as a chimney. We did our own cooking with the aid of a cracked Dutch oven, a frying pan with the handle gone, and a coffee pot that had parted company with spout and lid. This array of utensils was ample for the supply of things to be cooked.

There were three of us entitled to share the comforts of the den. One man alternated with myself on the northward ride. Another went 45 miles southward—down one day, up the next. The man left in camp acted as station keeper.

For the mules and ponies there was no provision whatever of food or shelter. On reaching the station the carrier pulled his saddle off his animal and turned him loose to find his living among the lean pickings of the prairie.

My alternate or myself was supposed to arrive at the hotel end of the ride in time to get a "good sleep" before returning, but on account of our courser's lack of vigor, we had generally only time to eat a [illegible] meal before starting on the down-trip. So the whole 130 miles of the round journey had often to be covered without sleep except the "cat naps" caught in the saddle. The time occupied was about 30 hours. During these hours there was little or nothing on the road to agreeably engage the carrier's attention. Scarcely ever was a traveler encountered. A troop of antelopes might circle in front of the rider or a band of coyotes or a lone gray wolf skulk along a hollow. That was all there was to enliven the way. There was indeed the chance of running into a gang of Indians, of whom there were some constantly in the country on horse-stealing expeditions, and who would kill a white man occasionally to keep their hands in practice; but the only attack that I knew to be made on a carrier on that line resulted in his getting off safely, as he happened to have a fresh horse and outrode his assailants.

The mail contractor for that route in some way made enemies of a band of white outlaws—horse thieves and murderers—who infested that region. These rascals swore that they would make the contractor throw up the business. To that end they began to steal his stock (assuredly not for its value) and to threaten the lives of the carriers. The particular field of annoyance was on the beat joining ours. Several riders were frightened off. Finally a young man, a stranger in the neighborhood, came offering to take the job. On his first trip he lost his way in some sand hills, where, for 12 miles, the trail was only imaginary. The wind-driven sand would obliterate the track of a wagon as soon as made. As each sand hill was a replication of every other, and as the mail carrier had to travel this charming road by night, there was little wonder at his losing himself. He wandered around for a couple of days before finding his way out. On the second attempt he passed the sand hills without misadventure, but when he rode up to the station again he had a bullet hole through the brim of his hat, another through the sleeve of his coat, and there was the dent of a glancing bullet on the brass fastenings of the mail bag. He said that three men afoot had fired at him from short range, but that he had spurred his horse from the road, and so escaped in the darkness.

And the wind! The wind in that quarter, as in most sections of the plains, was shamefully obstreperous. About sunrise there would come a smart puff of air that would presently subside. That puff always reminded me of the warning whirr of a rattlesnake's tail. A little later there would be a soft sighing breeze that seemed to murmur, "I'm sorry for you, but it can't be helped." And before long the blast would bear down in all its strength—pushing, crowding, smiting, roaring. The mail carriers, and in fact every one who was much abroad in that balmy clime, wore "blabs." The "blab," as every country person can tell you, is primarily a piece of wood fastened over a calf's mouth at weaning time. The "blab" as applied to human beings is a semi-circular piece of leather hung over the mouth with the avowed purpose of a guard against the rasping of the dry, alkali infected wind. But the "blab" also assisted in keeping the zephyr from getting into the carrier's interior department and turning him wrong side out.

The wind had a playful way of picking up the country, so to speak, and throwing it at a traveler's head. A cloud of swirling geological formations would, for hours at a time, hide everything a rod in advance of one's horse's nose. On days like this the carrier wore wire goggles. Besides protecting his eyes from the obelisks and unattached cattle ranges whizzing through the air, the goggles added to the carrier's beauty. The goggles and the blab harmonized in making him beautiful and romantic. With his hat tied down by a red 'kerchief, the altogether loveliness of the carrier was above and beyond the art of any designer of postage stamps.

II.

It is easy for a man with a sound digestion (and a mail rider is generally assured of that convenience) to make light of such personal discomforts as being obliged to kick a starved mule over a dreary road for a day or more at a stretch—as being badly lodged and as badly fed—as being made a target for pistol practice—as roaming wildly in company with migratory sand hills—as periodical peltings with a floating assortment of mineralogical cabinets. It is possible to extract some humor out of such relaxations, and from a variety of other dubious entertainments, some of which are likely to befall the mail carriers on almost any of the longer routes. It is yet more feasible to discover the fun after the event than when in progress. But when the fun has no after—what? What when the fun brings the carrier to the end of his last ride and discharges him forever from all service? When, in a word, the carrier dies in the performance of his duty; or when it leaves him no more than a fraction of a man, and such a fraction as is perhaps worse than no man.

Did you ever hear of a mail carrier being drowned while trying to ford or swim some swollen river or creek? There is scarcely a Western stream which has not its story or stories of such happenings. No men understand the dangers of these streams better than do the mail carriers; but they feel the responsibility of their employment—feel it unduly perhaps. They think that they will "try it anyhow." They dislike to be stopped without an effort on their part to go through. They force their horses into the water, and—that is the end.

Or did you ever hear of a mail carrier being frozen to death? Such things occur without being put into print, for they happen far from newspaper offices; or if there should chance to be a little publication office somewhere on the route it gives the item of news about as follows:

"We learn that a man carrying the mail between Muddy Creek and Antelope Spring was frozen to death during the late cold snap. No particulars have reached us."

It seems to me that if I were a log-cabin editor, starving for want of readable local news, I would reach for those particulars. I even think that one of the accomplished reporters of a great city paper would be glad (in a purely professional sense, of course,) to get hold of a frozen mail carrier to "write up" once in a way. I feel sure that he would make of the facts a story each line of which would contain an element of strong human interest.

Why not? You like to have the newspapers make the flesh over your spine crawl up under the hair behind your ears by printing all the details of the sufferings and death of a man who went in search of the North Star and who ran foul of the Moon and was frozen at the highest point of lunacy ever attained by human beings. You know you do. Yet if the man came back alive and brought the North Star in his valise and the Moon in the thumb of his mitten, and went to work to develop "important scientific results" in 16 folio volumes illustrated with sketches and charts, you know that not a score in a city of you would be any the wiser or better off, mentally, morally, physically, latitudinally or longitudinally.

Then why shouldn't the reporter interest you when he tells about the frozen mail carrier? What if the carrier was only a frontier waif with no other name than "Shorty" or "Dick." He was struggling to accomplish a useful toil—a child can understand its usefulness—and in my poor judgment when he went out into the awful snowstorm knowing the danger which faced him better than you or I know it even now, and yet, rather than shirk his task, daring the danger to do its worst, he was none the less a hero because his work was useful within the understanding of common folk than is the discoverer of an iceberg or a hyperborean bear.

Perhaps in the mail pouch slung over the flanks of his pony by the carrier as he went out to his doom there was the encouraging letter that you had lovingly written to the son who had "gone West." Or it might have been the words of good cheer sent by the daughter who was as the apple of your eye, but who had followed the lad of her choice to his prairie

---

poll, [illegible] the [illegible] and leaves Miss Brad- [illegible] and [illegible] companions in popular esteem to the consolations of large editions and the unthinking applause of the populace. But whether the populace or culture is right, it belongs to the future to decide. Perhaps the oddest thing of all is that the authors of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and of *Three Men in a Boat* have very small bands of supporters. Yet surely they are popular, if anybody is popular, at present. In the whole affair women are extremely prominent, as indeed they richly deserve to

---

he was seeing the sights of New-York, and he acknowledged the courtesy shown him in imperial fashion by presenting his portrait—a photograph—with his autograph affixed.

ranch. Or was it the fond remembrance of sister to brother, or the candied (taffy-candied) cooing of cousin Bob and the girl he left behind him? Or was it just a downright dunning letter to the man who skipped out and left you behind—in two senses?

If there were no letters in the pouch to or from you, there were some to and from persons very like you—of flesh and blood like yours—letters on just such subjects as you are thinking and speaking and writing about every day. Ah me! the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears, the love and despite, the whole burden of human passions and petty human cares that were borne into the furious rage of that tempestuous night on the flanks of the carrier's pony. Trite reflection! So be it—an ex-mail carrier is not a Plato nor a Bacon. And besides, a mail carrier—ex or in—cannot help dreaming of what was securely shut from sight in the brass-bound bag behind the saddle. I am not an imaginative man—if I were a newspaper editor my articles would run to political economy and practical politics—but I used to find myself, as I jig-jogged along the trail, imagining all sorts of queer little correspondences locked up in the brass-mounted bag. Never mind what they were—silly enough probably.

Perhaps the mail carrier who was frozen to death also fell to dreaming and imagining about the letters in the pouch behind him. Not likely. The dry hard snow lashed his face like whipcords, cover it as he would. His pony, dazed by the whipping of the storm had to be held in the road by a watchful bridle, and although the carrier changed the lines from one hand to the other, beating that which was free against his breast for warmth, the stiffening of his gloved fingers and the dreadful pain in them were not things to induce dreams. Then the aching of his feet was not fanciful. It was very real and present although the carrier's feet and his legs knee-high were bound around with a swathing of grain sacks—as is the way of carriers' legs in cold weather on the plains. His feet ached and ached, until at last they lost all feeling, and when he tried to spur his horse on to further effort he could not tell whether the steel touched the animal or not. He was like a dead carrier from the knees down.

There was blood on the grain sacks where they wrapped the shank of the spur, if you could have seen it for the snow that wreathed both horse and man. 'Twas a pity for the poor beast, but the orders were not to spare steel when behind time, and life is dear even to a mail rider, and safety lay in advance. But a time came when the bloody steel was of no further use to compel the pony forward. Worn out by its heavy laboring in the teeth of the wind and with the snow coiling like sea waves around its limbs, the animal sank almost to the saddle cinch in a great drift. A rear and a plunge, a stumble and a staggering to its feet, and the pony stood breathless and trembling with exhaustion and with his head drooping almost to the ground.

"No use," said "Shorty" to himself.

The horse stood at the edge of the drift, and to the left of him was a small crescent-shaped space of bare earth, where the wind had brushed the snow from a hillock. As he said "no use" the mail carrier, placing his right hand on the saddlehorn, leaned over and down and looked hard at the bare crescent. With a sudden change of position as if he had seen something that startled him, he looked down past his sack-bound dead leg on the other side. Then he appeared to be straining his sight with a sweeping glance all around. Then he uttered one word—just one, and I won't repeat it. It has gone out of fashion since the revised edition came in. With that he tried to swing himself from the saddle, but in his excitement he forgot that his legs were as the legs of a dead carrier. When his feet touched the ground they sent no signal of their arrival up to his body. So his body kept going down, and the mail carrier sat on the ground with a thump. He almost laughed. If his mustache and beard had not been a bunch of icicles that burned the flesh of his lips when they moved, and if the muscles of his face had not been made rigid by the cold, he would have laughed outright. As matters were he grinned. He was rather fond of rough jokes, and he could take one without becoming angry. So he grinned.

Presently he raised himself to a standing sition. He stamped first with one foot, then with the other, and looked at foot as he stamped. Attached in a the saddle by a buckskin whang ng halter or picket rope, one end was looped around the pony's neck. The mail carrier undid the knot in the whang, and holding in his hand the free end of the rope he walked out to its full length. With a sidelong motion of his foot he scraped the snow from a little patch of soil, and stooping down looked hard at the earth again. He seemed to be searching for something that he had lost. Still at the rope's length, he moved around the pony, stopping here and there to repeat the scraping of the soil and the stooping down with the eddies of snow curling up into his face. At one place he went on a knee, brushed a larger patch with his hand, and rubbed the snowflakes from his eyelashes with the back of his glove. There was a look of disappointment in his face when he arose, but he continued on his round, giving the rope a toss to clear it of the saddlehorn as he passed behind the horse. It was a careless, despondent sort of toss. When the carrier again reached the first little patch he had cleared he flung the rope to the ground impatiently, and said to himself "I thought so." What he thought was that he had lost the trail.

All the details of the picture which that thought engraved on the carrier's mind may not be understood at once by you. But for him there was no need to deliberate. He saw it all as one sees the details of a rugged landscape under a flash of lightning in the night. The glare goes by, but the imprint of the scene is fixed on the brain.

However, this mail rider was not the man to despair while a chance was left him. He walked up to the pony and looked him over as critically as possible in the darkness. He gave a little tug at the bridle and said. "Hold up your head, old fellow!" But the pony didn't hold up its head, old fellow. Whereupon the carrier, passing the halter rope over his shoulder and shortening it in both hands at his breast, started to walk away and lead, or rather drag, the pony after him. Lean as he was, the pony was too heavy for the carrier to drag. So the man threw down the rope once more, and then the beast, as if his equilibrium had been destroyed by the dropping of the halter, tottered and sank down on his haunches with his fore legs braced wide apart and his neck and head swaying one way and the other. It was what they call "a sorry spectacle." By and by, the pony's fore legs, too, gave way, and he fell over on his side, but tried with a feeble kind of movement to raise his head, for he had fallen in a position that could not be agreeable to him, though but a mail route pony—that is, with his feet up hill and the rest of him down hill on the slope under the snowdrift. The carrier unloosed the cinch, hauled clear the saddle, and with much pushing and pulling managed to turn the pony around, and to make things more comfortable for him in general by tucking in his fore legs and by other soothing attentions of such nature. Then he unfolded the saddle blankets and spread them over the pony's back and secured them by the cinch which he took from the saddle. Were you ever sick, very sick, and did some one of your womenkind raise your head and shoulders with never so gentle force and give the pillows a tender little pat here and a soft smoothing there, and dispose your limp arms in such a fashion as seemed least likely to make you tired of having arms to worry you? Then you know how the pony felt when the carrier turned him around and tucked up his legs and covered him with the blanket. Only, of course, the carrier had to be rougher in his ministrations than were your womenkind.

When he had arranged the pony's legs to his satisfaction the carrier took the mail bag from the saddle, hung it over his shoulder, glanced backward and said, "Good-bye, Warloopy." That was the carrier's way of pronouncing the pony's name, which was in theory Guadalupe.

The Coroner's jury, composed of the most experienced mustangs on the plains, afterward brought in this verdict: "That said Warloopy or Guadalupe came to his death from exhaustion and inability to resist cold, such exhaustion and inability having been superinduced by the willful, felonious, and otherwise scandalous, outrageous, and atrocious neglect of the United States mail contractor for star route No. —to provide a sufficient quality of corn, hay, or other food for the sustenance of the presently deceased."

There were some young bronchos who talked of lynching the contractor, but the counsels of older and less fiery mustangs prevailed. The latter shook their heads and said: "Let the law of nature take its course."

But before the assemblage dispersed the most venerable mustang present offered a resolution, which was adopted without a dissenting voice, (the whole meeting rising and many a broncho wiping a tear from his eye with his hind hoof,) to the following effect: "That we shall ever cherish in our fondest memories the grateful recollection of the mail carrier, 'Shorty,' who, although himself freezing to death, strove to render less painful the last moments of our deceased friend and brother, Warloopy or Guadalupe."

III.

When the mail carrier had said good-bye to Warloopy he set out to look for the trail. Whether it was on his right hand or his left, in front of him or behind he was utterly at fault. Was it a mile back that he had missed the road, or had he turned off just before the pony gave out? He had good eyes, he thought that he knew every yard of the road, and he had never for an instant ceased watching for the little bare spots from which the wind had swept the snow. Those clearings, exposing patches of the worn trail, were his only guidance. There were almost no landmarks which one but a plainsman could recognize even in the full light of day. What with the darkness and the snow scudding through the air and heaped up in greater or smaller ridges on the ground there was no sign in heaven or earth by which the carrier could direct his course except the small black patches of worn roadway. And now what vexed and troubled him most was that he could not remember where he had last seen a blot of trail in the snow.

He put the mail bag on the ground and sat down to study the thing over, but the more he studied the less he could remember. It seemed to him that the fearful coldness of the air was eating into his brains. He tried to light his pipe. Perhaps, he thought, that would help to clear his memory, and at least it would be something in the shape of fire. But when, with infinite difficulty, he had cut his tobacco, after opening his knife with his teeth, because of his fingers, which had become like iron claws, refusing to do him service, he could not make a match burn wherewith to get the pipe lit. He tried match after match, but one would be broken by the awkwardness of his numb claws and another would flicker in the wind and go out before he could bring match and pipe together. At last he put the pipe back into his pocket.

Again on his feet, which now seemed like lumps of lead for weight, but which were no more conscious of the earth under them than if the carrier had been walking on air, he began to move in a sort of circle. When he tried to light the pipe he had come but a short distance from where he left the pony, and now he endeavored to keep the direction of that point fixed in his mind. He would walk in a gradually widening circle until he should come to the trail. It could not, he said to himself encouragingly, be very far away. At all events he must walk somewhere to keep up what warmth was left in him, and to go wandering in every direction would be the sure way to miss the road. If he had been certain about the wind he could have laid a course by that. When he left the station as night came on he had carefully noted the direction of the wind, but it had shifted frequently, blowing in great squalls first from one quarter and then from another, and now he had no clear idea from whence it came. If he could have but one glimpse of the stars! The carrier knew them all by sight, for on his comings and goings during the night hours he had many a time amused himself by studying their places in the sky. He may have even let his fancy conjure up mail carriers riding from star to star on winged ponies, and wondered if the ponies with wings were as lean and as weak as was the one he bestrode. But now for the lack of a star he would use the pony as a sign. And somehow it came into his head that the pony was the sun and he was the earth revolving around it. There was some warmth in that fancy, and he recurred to it again and again. Then it struck him that the pony was the hub of a buckboard wheel and that he was a felloe, and he tried to imagine a spoke connecting them: and his thoughts grew so riotous that he pictured the spoke as made of some elastic substance that would stretch as the felloe walked away from the hub, and would jerk the felloe back if it went too far in the wrong direction. There was a shade of comfort, too, in that thoug But these were queer ideas to lost come and

B ks That Are Popular Out West.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Librarian Dyer, speaking of the purchase of books, said: " 'Ben Hur' is the most popular book we have ever had; that is to say, it is the one read the most. We bought one hundred copies of it, and there are always a number of people on the waiting list. The day we moved the library we found only three copies on the shelf. When 'Les Miserables'

ASTOR LIBRARY READERS

TRADITIONS OF THE BIG BUILDING ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.

EMINENT MEN WHO HAVE USED THE LIBRARY—ODD

---

also have been seen at least four ents of the United States—Van Buren, ore, Pierce, and Buchanan. On the eve of inauguration as Vice President Chester A. ur here had recourse to books in order to iliarize himself with the details of previous inaugural ceremonies, being inspired by a gentle an's instinctive desire to act well his part. It was somewhere near the same time that a visit with anything but an attractive face

---

"How long would it be till daylight?" He found himself repeating that over and over. He had no conception as to the time that had elapsed since he left the station. Was it midnight, or was he cheating himself when he thought there was a tinge of light coming through the snow that seemed to make the air so hard to breathe and that beat with such blinding force against his eyes? He had a stout heart, this carrier, and he cheered himself by saying that the storm would break before morning, and then, with the sun for a guide, he could find his way to the end of his beat, (he never thought of going back,) even if he could not discover the trail. But he had known of men lost in storms less fierce and bitter than this to perish before the morning came, and of others who had wandered for days after losing the trail before reaching a place of safety.

In this train he fell to questioning himself: Could he last? He did not try to hide from himself the knowledge that the deadness in his legs had begun to creep upward, although all the while he was making most violent exertion, laboring in the deep snow mounds and ridges into which he would stumble in the darkness. The numbness and stiffening of his hands too was slowly extending up his arms, although he never ceased beating them across his breast. If he could have seen his hands he would have noticed that, gloved as they were, they bore livid marks where he had struck them against the brass mountings of the mail pouch which he always carried, changing it at times from shoulder to shoulder.

Could he last? Would morning never come? Those were the two questions between which his mind swung like a pendulum. He felt no pain now. The icicles of congealed vapor about his mouth no longer burned into his flesh when disturbed by some motion of his hand. His face was like a pale mask with the eyes of it alone conscious of life. He gave over his hunting in a circle. Making a few paces forward he would halt and retrace his steps, like a sentinel on his beat, until there was a short path trodden in the snow, beyond the ends of which he never passed. And, like his pacing to and fro within a fixed limit, his mind never went beyond, "Can I last?" to return to "Will morning never come?"

Between these two points he was sensible in a vague manner that his strength was failing. In his confidence that his good eyes would find the patches of trail among the shifting snow drifts he had moved fast and far and without thought of husbanding the strength of his body. The bloody spurs had been as merciful to the worn pony as the carrier to himself.

Fear had not driven him. He would have laughed in your face if you had called him a brave man, but if he had been one to let fear drive or hold back he would have listened to the station keeper when he said, "Shorty, if I were you I wouldn't start until morning." Oh no! "Shorty" hadn't made a fine speech about his duty. (His definition of the word would have been a curious thing to hear. I doubt that he could have spelled it.) All he did was to take a long look out of doors and then say quietly, "I guess I'll go."

He had gone; and now he was here to wing like a pendulum between "Can I st?" and "Will morning never come?"

The pendulum swung slowly now, and still more slowly. Pacing his dismal beat, the sentry no longer turned to the sky the pale mask with the eager eyes staring through it for a token of the coming day. Heedless of the snow that closed around him like a winding sheet, and of the shrill wind, ever becoming more shrill as the night wore on, the spectral carrier moved along his little path as if he were still a thing of life, but the awful sleep that had touched him with its finger had expelled the knowledge of motion from his brain, although it strove in vain to drag the white eyelids down on the staring eyes. There was an ungainly gesture, twice repeated, of the rigid arm as if to brush away the overpowering sleep. There was a faint, weary effort to raise the drooping head, but if that gray tint oozing through the blackness of the night were indeed the dawn of day the postman's eyes were none the wiser. At the midway point of his little path the carrier paused, and there with movements of his stiffened joints indescribably suggestive of intense desire for rest and sleep, he laid himself down in the wreathing snow with the mail bag at his side. The pendulum had ceased to swing. The carrier could not last. Morning will never come.

Shall I tell you how they found him? How, when the buffalo grass was sending up its green shoots, a wandering shepherd's dog, roaming from his master's side, returned with a strange object in his mouth. And how the shepherd, wondering at the strange thing, went in the direction whence the dog had come and there found a mail bag. But the bag was gnawed and cut in places, and the shepherd knew that only the sharp teeth of the coyotes had done it. And when the shepherd brought others to the spot they said that the blood-rusted spur (the second was never found) and the shreds of clothes clinging to the straggling bones that lay by the mail bag were the spur and the clothes of the mail carrier who had gone out into the great storm with all the human passions and petty cares on the flanks of his pony.

IV.

As, in the sketch I have given of the solid enjoyments of a mail carrier's calling as experienced by "Shorty," I may have seemed to have gone beyond the evidence in minor matters, let me tell you what happened to some mail carriers who, for all I know, may be yet alive to verify the story. I shall adhere to the line of known facts—"frozen facts," if so you please to call them.

The Winter of the year 188- was an uncommonly severe one over all the country between the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains. As far south, indeed, as the Lower Rio Grande there were heavy snowstorms, and I remember reading of men being frozen to death on the Mexican side of that river. The cattle on the plains of Colorado, Kansas, Northwestern Texas, and other sections died by tens of thousands, as they do during every severe Winter. In the Panhandle of Texas, where I happened to be at that time, the ground for a number of weeks was covered with a foot or more of snow on the level, and of course to a much greater depth under the drifts formed by the strong winds of that very open country. Storm came after storm, and on many days the north wind blew with a bitter power of penetration that I have never known surpassed on the prairies of Minnesota or even further toward the arctic zone. The thermometer marked—I do not know what.

The thermometer is an amusing toy in front of a Broadway druggist's shop, but for practical purposes it is the great-grandfather of lies. It can look you in the face and tell you that you are, on the whole, pretty comfortable when you know that the wind is churning your blood into jelly and changing the marrow of your bones into gristle. Kindly excuse the digression, and let me add that whenever you find tacked on to a seductive description of some distant climate an array of highest and lowest temperatures and thermometrical averages and the like, you may set down that description and its array of figures as a concoction with intent to deceive those very numerous persons who are always hunting after a country where it is never hot and never cold, never wet and never dry, never anything but what the mean little lying thermometer and its partners in iniquity, the barometer and other implements of fraud, say it is.

Well, then, in the Pan Handle of Texas that was a very cold Winter, and mail carriers and others who had to be much abroad were having a hard time of it. There was a mail route running across the Pan Handle, starting at (I believe) Vinita, in the Indian Territory, and ending at Las Vegas, New-Mexico, and following for much of the way the general course of the Canadian River. This route was divided into sections of various lengths. One section extended westward from Mobeetie, a small town not far from Fort Elliott, to Tascoso, a place of half a dozen buildings, the length of the section being some 80 miles. Between Mobeetie and Tascoso were one mail station and a few far apart ranches. The mail carrier on this section of the route rode on a buckboard, and changed his team once, and perhaps twice, between the ends of the drive. (I was not familiar with the lower end of the drive, and have forgotten some of the details of arrangement, but they are of no importance.)

There was some difficulty in finding men to undertake this drive. The carrier was obliged to be exposed to the weather for many continuous hours; to make the trip within the allotted time was next to impossible, and in case of a snowstorm there was imminent peril of losing one's way. For about 35 or 40 miles the road ran over a neck of the Staked Plains. It was here that the danger threatened. Even in Summer the slight risings and fallings of the Staked Plains have scarcely as much of individual character visible as have the swellings of the sea under a dead calm. Nothing grows on them but the short mesquit grass. With snow leveling up the depressions the uniformity of the landscape, if it may be called by so ambitious a name, is of course yet more determined. The snow is below you and the sky is over you, and that is all there is to it. Under such discouraging circumstances to follow a road, being no more than a ribbon of land from which the grass is hardly worn away, demands the quick and concentrated observation of a Comanche Indian on the trail of an enemy. This by day. By night and during a storm the likelihood of a traveler losing his way increases a hundredfold. To lose one's way on the Staked Plains is to be like a man cast adrift on a great lake without chart or compass. For choice the lake might be preferable in not a few respects. The wonder was, not that there was difficulty in getting men to carry the mail over this delightful drive, but that men could be found who would take the risk.

Employed as a carrier on a connecting division of the route was a lad named John Carrington, a quiet, accomodating boy, and a great favorite with everybody living along the line. "Little Johnny" was asked or volunteered to take the disagreeable drive from Tascoso to Mobeetie. He knew the road as well as man could know it, and also much of the country through which the trail ran, and was confident of being able to go through on time. He set out and reached Mobeetie in safety. On the return trip, when he left the station near the foot of the "breaks" of the plains—that is to say the wooded walls of the great tableland—sure indications of a fresh fall of snow were manifest. Nevertheless, "Little Johnny" said "Git up!" and threw out his whiplash over the four mules harnessed to his buckboard. The usual two mules had been doubled in number on account of the difficulty of drawing through the snow even such a light rig as a buckboard. Scarcely was "Little Johnny" well up on the plains when the storm came on. With it came the night. A less courageous or more prudent person would have turned back. Carrington went forward. Of course he lost the road. The storm continued throughout the night and the next day. During that time and for the succeeding night, and the following day, and the night after that the carrier wandered about the plains. How many days and nights, do you suppose, seemed to the carrier to be passing during that time? He was without food, without water or fire, without shelter from the macerating wind sweeping over the snow, and sleep he could only get for a few minutes at a time. One of his mules broke down. He turned it loose, and went on with the three left. Another and another became exhausted. He set them free, and finally drifted back to the station without one animal drawing the buckboard. He was alive, and that was all, for when as soon as was possible he was removed to the hospital at Fort Elliott for treatment the surgeons were obliged to cut off both of his frozen hands and both of his frozen feet.

Then there stepped into the vacant carriership another man who thought that he could make the drive. His name I have forgotten. On starting out from Mobeetie he had two passengers with him. On arrival—we shall see. One of the passengers was a fiddler, earning his living in Winter by playing at country dances. About the other passenger nobody knew anything except that he was an Irish youth and was rather lightly clad for the season. At about the same place where Carrington lost his way the new carrier and the fiddler and the Irish youth lost theirs. A terrific snowstorm was driving from the north at the time, and it continued for more than 24 hours. Whether the men lost their heads or the mules became exhausted was not clear, but during the night the team was abandoned, floundering in a deep drift in one of the depressions where shallow rain water lakes are formed in Summer. The men sought the trail throughout the night, but as well might a sailor on a raft in mid-ocean seek the wake of a ship gone by. However, despite the old saying, three were company in this case, and the carrier, the fiddler and the Irish youth encouraged each other to hope for better things in the morning. But, beating

---

Miss Braddon and her companions in popular esteem the consolations of large editions and the unthinking applause of the populace. But whether the populace or culture is right, it belongs to the future to decide. Perhaps the oddest thing of all is that the authors of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and of *Three Men in a Boat* have very small bands of supporters. Yet surely they are popular, if anybody is popular, at present. In the whole affair women are extremely prominent, as indeed they richly deserve to

---

Dom Pedro of the library when he was seeing the sights of New-York, and he acknowledged the courtesy shown him in imperial fashion by presenting his portrait—a photograph—with his autograph affixed.

around in the darkness, they were gradually working southward, and the further southward they went the further they went from the road and the wider grew the expanse of the Staked Plains, thus reducing their chances of reaching the "breaks" of the great *mesa*. They tried to face the storm, but the violence of the wind and the snow thrashing their faces made them gasp for breath and magnified tenfold the labor of struggling through the drifts into which they were continually sinking. So to get relief they would turn their backs to the gale, and thus kept working southward. Their progress was very slow, wading knee deep in the drifts, but it was very steady in the direction of death on the Staked Plains. And they knew it.

For three nights and two days thus they wandered, going they knew not where, except to probable death. Like Carrington, they had neither food, water, nor any fire, snow and wind being incombustible, and no other material within reach. They slept by turns, one watching lest the others should forget to wake. All the covering they had was a piece of a canvas wagon sheet, so you may well believe that it was not the luxurious comfort of their bed that was likely to make them forget to wake. They must have been tough men or they could not have lasted; for, although the snow ceased falling from the sky, the wind was no less piercing as it swept over the unbroken surface of dazzling white. The glare from this white surface was another cause of distress, for it pained the eyes of the lost men and made it exceedingly difficult for them to walk in any fixed course.

On the third day the poorly dressed Irish lad could go no further. His comrades said he must have been very tough to last so long, for you could see his bare red ankles between his shoes and his trousers, and the sleeves of his coat were far from protecting his wrists. He urged the others to leave him. They could do no good by staying there, and perhaps they might reach a house somewhere and send help to him. If his time had come he said he was ready for it. His reasoning was sound. The two others wrapped around him the piece of canvas and left him lying in the snow. He was still conscious, but his arms and legs were so stiff that they could scarcely be bent at the joints. I have never heard if the body was found, but the cowboys in the country said: "On the Spring round-up we may come across what the coyotes leave of him." It was said, too, that the Irish lad was a newly arrived immigrant from the old country. He had taken much trouble and come a long distance to seek his fortune in a wolf's stomach. If his name were known, how the Irish emigrant's mother and sisters in the green island would be amused and pleased to read of his success.

After leaving the young Irishman the two other lost men waded through the snow together for two days. Then the carrier could go no further. More warmly clothed, he was as yet in better plight than the immigrant had been, but was quite worn out. He, too, said: "Go on; you can be of no use here." The fiddler tried to coax him to proceed, and offered to support him as much as he was able. But no; the carrier's heart had gone out of him. So the fiddler went on alone. Whether at this time the fiddler or the carrier or the immigrant was most to be envied seems to me an open question.

The fiddler, however, had an enviably strong will and a hopeful disposition. He was also a man who read the newspapers, and therefore, while not good stuff for a juryman, he had acquired some useful knowledge. He had read about a certain Dr. Tanner, who two or three years earlier had fasted for 40 days, and although he was becoming very faint from hunger, the fiddler said to himself: "If that slab-sided old sawbones could fast for 40 days I ought to be able to hold out for 20 days anyway." This is one instance where Tanner's fast had useful consequences. The fiddler afterward said that the idea kept him up mightily.

On the afternoon of the day on which the carrier gave out a hand from a cattle ranch by the Canadian River was gathering a load of firewood among the cedars and piñon trees on the "breaks" of the plains, when he noticed a footman upon the level of a projecting point of the tableland. A man, and a man afoot, was out of the common in such a place, and the wood hauler at once went up to see who it was. He found the fiddler walking around in a circle, with his eyesight extinguished for the time by the glare of the snow. The ranch hand led the fiddler to the wagon, bundled him into it, and drove home. A search party of mounted cowboys, (with all their faults, ever ready for such a mission,) accompanied by a wagon, went out at once to look for the carrier. They found him on the next day, alive and endeavoring to follow the fiddler's tracks in the snow.

If ever jolly fiddler lived this was he, for on the evening when found he asked for a fiddle and tried to make music with the things that had been his hands. But when the mail carrier and the fiddler were removed to Fort Elliott the surgeons had to cut off the hands and feet of both of them. Some persons would think that to be such fractions of men was worse than to be no men—worse than to be drowned by a swollen river or to be snarled over by wolves.

LEWIS STORNOWAY.

Books That Are Popular Out West.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Librarian Dyer, speaking of the purchase of books, said: "'Ben Hur' is the most popular book we have ever had; that is to say, it is the one read the most. We bought one hundred copies of it, and there are always a number of people on the waiting list. The day we moved the library we found only three opies on the shelf. When 'Les Miserables' irst appeared fifty copies answered the demand, although this is one of the most constantly read books in the library. As to 'Robert Elsmere?' Well, we bought twenty-five volumes, but the public was so eager to get it that we had to buy forty copies of the paper edition to come anywhere near satisfying the literary hunger of our subscribers. The paper edition is incomplete, but it will answer all purposes.

Donnelly Enrolls a Recruit.

A young man who had recently commenced the use of the gymnasium, and who was carefully reading up all he could find on the line of physical development, put on his call card at a library Beecher's "Morning and Evening Exercises." Another, while preparing for a vacation on the banks of Schroon Lake, asked for "Under Canvas," a book which sets forth the evangelical work which the author carried on during several Summers in a tent known as "The Muslin Church."—*Library Journal.*

POPULAR ENGLISH FICTION.

RETURNS AFTER A VOTE ON THE QUESTION WAS TAKEN.

From the London Daily News.

After two weeks of hard voting by 11,307 electors the palm of popularity in fiction has been awarded. The readers of a weekly paper, *London,* have returned a lady at the top of the poll. Miss Braddon romps in with 1,808 votes, easily heading her nearest male rival, who has 1,648. The curiosities of the election are many. Mr. Besant is not a bad third, (1,560,) about double the votes given for Ouida, who just beats Mr. James Payn for fourth place, while he again is high above "John Strange Winter," Mr. Hawley Smart, and Miss Broughton. Miss Edna Lyall in such a competition might surely have looked for more than 327 backers, but she "walks away" from Mr. Robert Buchanan. Mr. ack is near the bottom of the poll, a position which a majority over Mr. R. L. Stevenson may afford him no little comfort.

Miss Braddon is more than ten times as much the world's desire as the author of "The Master of Ballantrae." So much for style and popularity. There is a very close fight between Mr. Justin McCarthy (84) and Mr. Thomas Hardy, (83.) Mrs. Lynn Linton, Mr. Burnand, and Mr. ristie Murray are companions in discomfiture. Marion Crawford comes last, with 23, and r. George Meredith is not mentioned at all, ot "colored on the card." What, then, does ulture say? We fancy that culture simply inverts the list, places Mr. Meredith at the top of the poll, in his absence, and leaves Miss Braddon and her companions in popular esteem to the consolations of large editions and the unthinking applause of the populace. But whether the populace or culture is right, it belongs to the uture to decide. Perhaps the oddest thing of all is that the authors of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and of "Three Men in a Boat" have very small bands of supporters. Yet surely they are popular, if anybody is popular, at present. In the whole affair women are extremely prominent, as indeed, they richly deserve to be.

ENE IN THE ROMAN CAPITOL.

MODERN FICTION.

ETURNS AFTER AN ENGLISH VOTE ON THE QUESTION WAS TAKEN.

The London *Daily News* has the following: After two weeks of hard voting by 11,307 electors the palm of popularity in fiction has been awarded. The readers of a weekly paper, *London,* have returned a lady at the of the poll. Miss Braddon romps in with 1,808 votes, easily heading her nearest male rival, who has 1,648 The curiosities of the election are many. Mr. Besant is not a bad third (1,560), about double the votes given for Ouida, who just beats Mr. James Payn for fourth place, while he again is high above "John Strange Winter," Mr. Hawley Smart, and Miss Broughton. Miss Edna Lyall in such a competition might surely have looked for more than 327 backers, but she "walks away" from Mr. Robert Buchanan. Mr. Black is near the bottom of the poll, a position in which a majority over Mr. R. L. Stevenson may afford him no little comfort.

Miss Braddon is more than ten times as much the world's desire as the author of *The Master of Ballantrae* So much for style and popularity. There is a very close fight between Mr Justin McCarthy (84) and Mr Thomas Hardy (83). Mrs. Lynn Linton, Mr. Burnand, and Mr. Christie Murray are companions in discomfiture. Mr. Marion Crawford comes last, with 23 and Mr. George Meredith is not mentioned at all, not "colored on the card." What, then, does culture say? We fancy that culture simply inverts the list, places Mr. Meredith at the top of the poll, in his absence, and leaves Miss Braddon and her companions in popular esteem to the consolations of large editions and the unthinking applause of the populace. But whether the populace or culture is right, it belongs to the future to decide. Perhaps the oddest thing of all is that the authors of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and of *Three Men in a Boat* have very small bands of supporters Yet surely they are popular, if anybody is popular, at present. In the whole affair women are extremely prominent, as indeed hey richly deserve to

---

ASTOR LIBRARY READERS

TRADITIONS OF THE BIG BUILDING ON LAFAYETTE PLACE.

EMINENT MEN WHO HAVE USED THE LIBRARY—ODD CHARACTERS AMONG THE FREQUENTERS.

Since the Astor Library was first opened to the public in 1854 a motley and interesting stream of humanity has been flowing in and out of its halls. In the multitude some eccentric geniuses have displayed their besetting follies as hardly anywhere else outside of insane asylums; idlers have abounded, as at all other free entertainments, and famous characters enough have there shown themselves to form an extensive historical portrait gallery.

Some of the Astor Library readers are odd people to say the least, and now and then a touch of pathos is to be found in their life or death. Among them there used to be a poor old man, whose weird face, long hair, and picturesquely-draped shawl attracted not a little attention. He loved to hear the sound of his own voice, and never tired of drawing parallels between Shakespeare and George Eliot or of otherwise making a parade of his knowledge of literature. In the streets he often gathered a mob of little children around him and then amused them by his singing, talking, and dancing. His many years seemed to sit lightly upon him, but one day he went into a barber's shop to be shaved and died in the barber's chair. Another queer fellow was observed to persist in wearing his hat all through his hours of reading, but at last he was unexpectedly addressed, and immediately he uncovered his head, and down tumbled his long hair, braided into a cue after the fashion of schoolgirls. On one occasion a visiting stranger gave evidence of his emotion at beholding such an assemblage of books by falling down among them in an epileptic fit. An Englishman of noble family went regularly to the library a few years since to read up his ancestry and the history of his native land; he was a giant in stature, and looked the very picture of health, but a sudden and sad end was put to his studies, for he was taken dangerously ill, rushed from his bed into the street in his delirium, thrust a stick down his throat, and died of the resulting inflammation. Linguists abound among the readers, and one is still remembered of rather unsavory appearance who could speak a dozen or more languages, and yet arrived one morning with a black eye received in a drunken brawl. More respectable was a myopic German gentleman and scholar, who pegged away day after day to perfect his knowledge of Arabic; he was as poor as he was learned; so, when he came to the end of his means, he saw nothing for him to do but to commit suicide by hanging himself in his squalid hired room.

An interminable catalogue would be needed to enumerate all the varieties of readers seen in the Astor Library. It is often used by college youths in search of the "ponies" that enable them to ride easily through the Greek and Latin classics, or thirsting for some magazine article to copy off as an original essay. Young ladies go there to start a thorough course of reading in English literature; they wrestle valiantly with Beowulf and Caedmon, but only too often succumb before reaching Chaucer. European noblemen occasionally dip into the books written in their mother tongue and forget for the moment their designs upon the fair heiresses of America. Genealogically inclined people there take uncommon pains to trace out their pedigree, unless they have the misfortune to find the family tree ending in a gallows with some worthless ancestor dangling from it. A few unfortunates are always looking through next-of-kin indexes and newspaper advertisements for a hint of that vast estate waiting on the other side of the Atlantic for them to claim it, and in the pursuit of a mythical fortune they may squander the substance actually in their possession. Some individuals frequent the library only to turn over volume after volume of illustrated or comic papers, and considerable ingenuity is manifested by others in handling books without deriving any too much learning from them. From its foundation Washington Irving was deeply interested in the Astor Library and a frequent reader there. Some of the material for his "Life of Washington" he drew from its shelves, and his biography relates how he chuckled over the idea of walking out of the building with a library book in his pocket and thus for once circumventing his dear friend, the librarian. Upon one of his visits Irving produced his last will and testament and invited two of the officials to witness the document, which was at once done in the retirement of the alcoves.

Fitz Greene Halleck also visited the library in its early days, but only occasionally, for perhaps his poetic muse breathed more freely elsewhere. But the bookish atmosphere of the institution was thoroughly appreciated in years past by the most famous of American historians, George Bancroft, who so successfully united the patience to delve unweariedly in documents dry as dust and the genius to infuse life into the information thus accumulated. The scholarly tastes of Edward Everett led him to the Astor Library when he chanced to be in New-York, and Charles Sumner is said to have studied there in the preparation of one of his stirring orations. During his stay in America Thackeray spent some time in these book-lined alcoves, and, perched on a step-ladder, with his glasses pushed up on his forehead and his genial face deep in a cherished old volume, he must have looked the perfect image of a bookworm and just the picture for a book plate.

The Prince of Wales deigned to honor the Astor Library with his presence, and to make the occasion more memorable the public were excluded for that afternoon. Dom Pedro of Brazil did not omit the library when he was seeing the sights of New-York, and he acknowledged the courtesy shown him in imperial fashion by presenting his portrait—a photograph—with his autograph affixed.

also have been seen at least four ents of the United States—Van Buren, ore, Pierce, and Buchanan. On the eve of inauguration as Vice President Chester A. ur here had recourse to books in order to iliarize himself with the details of previous inaugural ceremonies, being inspired by a gentleman's instinctive desire to act well his part. It was somewhere near the same time that a visitor with anything but an attractive face whiled away several hours of every day in these hospitable reading rooms. There was nothing in his appearance to distinguish him from the herd of office seekers that, until civil service reform becomes more of an accomplished fact, will always signalize the advent of a new administration by crowding into libraries selecting from the Blue Book the lucrative places suited to their transcendent ideas of their own merits. This modest aspirant determined to content himself with the post of Consul General at Paris, so he began to study a French grammar and a Paris guide, but he seemed rather to stare about in deep meditation than attend closely to his books. Suddenly the man disappeared, and the next heard of him was that he had become forever infamous—as the assassin of Garfield.

When Dean Stanley left his beloved Westminster Abbey to make an American tour, he visited the Astor Library, as well as other literary institutions, with a large company of ecclesiastically-vested gentlemen as his escort; although he was in stature the smallest, intellectually he towered like a giant over the rest of his clerical brethren. Many other travelers of note have found their way to the library. Dr. Kane, Capt. Hall, and Dr. Hayes sometimes read there, when they were not exploring the arctic regions; and once at least Lady Franklin was a visitor to the collection of books that now includes so many records of the unsuccessful voyages in search of her lost husband. Mme. Ida Pfeiffer stopped here in her globe trotting long enough to look at a volume or two, and so also did Richard Burton before he went back to Oriental countries. George Catlin of Indian fame was occasionally seen in the library; John Gould must have been gratified to find there room enough even for his long rows of sumptuously-illustrated folios on birds; Bayard Taylor discovered works on the parts of the earth he had not personally traveled over, and, though Du Chaillu encountered no gorillas there, he gained some knowledge of the Viking age from a multitude of books as well as from his peregrinations in the land of the midnight sun.

Years ago the venerable Gen. Winfield Scott was numbered among the readers at the Astor Library, but he probably never dreamed that some of the military books from his private collection would come there, too, after his death. Richard Cobden once paid a fleeting visit to the institution; the historian, Motley, must have felt some interest in examining it, because the teacher of his youth had been its first librarian; Horace Greeley occasionally left his editorial sanctum to dip there into literature; and many other journalists of renown have looked into this repository of books. Richard Grant White was a very regular attendant, and his years of study here aided him in becoming so great an authority on Shakespeare and on the use and abuse of words.

When Prof. von Holst crossed over the ocean from Germany to dive deeper into the constitutional history of the United States than any one before him had ever thought of doing, he was for a time constantly in the library, and to see his thorough way of plodding through a box of apparently worthless political pamphlets would ve given a lesson to superficial scribblers on h subjects.

erseverance almost equal to this German professor's was displayed here one Winter by Mrs. Helen Hunt Jackson, (known to readers as H. H.,) who ransacked the United States documents from end to end for materials to prove that the white man's treatment of the red man has been "a century of dishonor." Miss Alcott, Miss Cleveland, and Mrs. Amelia E. Barr are but a few of the many other literary ladies that might be mentioned as having here shown a capacity for reading as well as for writing good books. Charles Dudley Warner occasionally drops into the institution, sauntering from such a subject as the Joe Miller of ancient Greece to John Smith of Pocahontas memory. Dr. Edward Eggleston knows all its books that are likely to yield him the slightest scrap of information about old times in America; and a long list could be drawn up of other literary men who have either visited or studied in the Astor Library.

Some of the very best of its readers perhaps are like the happiest nations—without any striking history. They go to the library in quest of knowledge; they find it and diffuse it. The good done by a reference library cannot be estimated by the mere number of its visitors. If an author or a teacher discovers something there to inte his readers or pupils, th benefits tion may thus indir ver see it.

THE BEST TEN AMERICAN BOOKS.—The vote of the *Critic's* readers on the ten books which they regard as "the greatest yet produced in America, or by Americans," has resulted in the following choice:

Emerson's Essays, Hawthorne's "Scar Letter," Longfellow's Poems, Mrs. Stowe "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Dr. Holmes's "Aut crat," Irving's "Sketch Book," Lowel Poems, Whittier's Poems, Wallace's "Be Hur," Motley's "Rise of the Dutch Repu lic."

ITERARY CRANKS.—The othèque ionale has, like the British Museum, its ular frequenters, with their various pecu- rities. There was Il Signor Carnaval, in hom an unfortunate love affair had produced a form of harmless lunacy which led to his wearing jonquil-colored clothes, putting a wreath of flowers round his hat, and sitting every day for hours together in front of the same open volume. There was the Orientalist who went by the name of the Persian, who came in at 10 o'clock every morning carrying two large volumes under one arm and an umbrella in the other hand. He was working at a Turkish-French dictionary. "Chose curieuse! ce Persan n'était sans doute pas de la Perse; il paraissait ignorer absolument le français, et on n'a jamais su s'il connaissait le turc." One fine day he failed to put in an appearance, and it was at once supposed, and rightly, that he was dead.—*Paris Picturesque.*

From The Literary Journal.

A few months ago a reader asked me to get him Porter's History of the United States Navy, and on my suggesting that possibly he meant Preble's History of steam navigation, recollected that that was the title. The other day a professor from another college inquired for the architectural works of Parnassus, in many volumes, costing $500. He had never seen the books, but an architect had described them to him and he had searched for them in vain or two years. By a little bibliographical legerdemain I found that he meant the works of Piranesi.

If this thing keeps on somebody will have to open a school of library mind-reading. Even that, however, I fear, would fail in such a case as I had last summer, where a student had forgotten the author of the book he wanted, couldn't recall its title, and had no idea of its subject.

How books are asked for:—"I want—a—a—something histrionic." She wanted Berthet's "Prehistoric World."

"I want a nice book."

"Please send Dr. B. two of Dumas's novels that he has never read."

"I want a commentary by a bishop; I do not remember his name."

"A book I saw here nine years ago."

"I don't recollect the title of the book I want, but there was a remarkable passage in the last part which I should remember if I saw it."

ONDON PUBLISHER has received an- from 1000 school girls to the question: is your favorite author?" Dickens d 330 votes; Scott, 226; Kingsley and Yonge, 91 each; Shakspeare, 73 Eliot, 41, and other prominent autho mber.

1886

Gives a number of a book. Book corresponding to number is not one he wants. He dont know the name, title or subject of the one he does want. Finally much questioning elicits fact that he has seen the book in some Sunday school library, where it had the number he has given. Consequently he supposed that that number would get it for him in any library.

THE BEST NOVELS.

A Curious Literary Experiment by the Librarian of the St. Louis Public School.

From the St. Louis Republican.

The most interesting reading about reading that the present month has developed appeared yesterday in the St. Louis Public School Library bulletin. This is the result of voting for the best novels. The librarian, Mr. F. M. Crunden, who deserves the honor of having breathed the breath of life into the public school library, if he did not create the form of it, some time ago, in order to find out just what the popular voice looked upon as the best novel and novels asked a number of ladies and gentlemen of extended reading and acknowledged taste to prepare lists of what they regarded as:

1. The best ten novels.
2. The next best ten novels.
3. The best ten novelettes or minor novels.

The lists collated show the following result, the number of votes obtained by each novel being given opposite:

Best Ten Novels—Vanity Fair, Thackeray, 34; Les Miserables, Hugo, 29; Newcomes, Thackeray, 27; Romola, Lewes, 25; Henry Esmond, Thackeray, 25; Adam Bede, Lewes, 23; David Copperfield, Dickens, 23; Ivanhoe, Scott, 23; Middlemarch, Lewes, 20; Don Quixote, Cervantes, 18; Mill on the Floss, Lewes, 18; Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne, 18.

Second Best Ten Novels—Vanity Fair, Thackeray, 17; Middlemarch, Lewes, 14; Newcomes, Thackeray, 12; Adam Bede, Lewes, 11; Felix Holt, Lewes, 11; Marble Fawn, Hawthorne, 11; Pendennis, Thackeray, 11. The above seven hold indisputed rank in the second best ten. For the other three places there are ten candidates in the same number of votes; Consuelo, Dudevant, 9; David Copperfield, Dickens, 9; Hypatia, Kingsley, 9; Ivanhoe, Scott, 9; Jane Eyre, Bronte, 9; John Halifax, Craik, 9; Last Days of Pompeii, Bulwer, 9; Mill on the Floss, Lewes, 9; Romola, Lewes, 9; Vicar of Wakefield, Goldsmith, 9.

Best Ten Novelettes—One Summer, Howar 13; Marjory Daw, Aldrich, 12; Louisiana, Burn 8; Undine, Fouque, 8; Cricket on the Hearth, Dickens, 7; Little Women, Alcott, 7; Luck of Roaring Camp, Harte, 6; Chance Acquaintance, Howells, 5; Colonel's Opera Cloak, No Name Series, 5; Daisy Miller, James, 5; International Episode, James, 5; Janet's Repentance, Lewes, 5; Madame Delphine, Cable, 5; Picciola, Santine, 5; Rab and His Friends, Brown, 5; Silas Marner, Lewes, 5; Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby, Hughes, 5; Confessions of a Frivolous Girl, Grant, 4; Fair Barbarian, Burnett, 4; Reveries of a Bachelor, Mitchell, 4; Starling, Macleoid, 4; Alice in Wonderland, Dodgson, 3; Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, Holmes, 3; Elizabeth, Thackeray, 3; Lady of the Aroostook, Howells, 3; Petite Fadette, Dudevant, 3; Story of Avis, Phelps, 3; Sun Maid, Grant, 3; Their Wedding Journey, Howells, 3; Through One Administration, Burnett, 3. Total, 154.

—The Librarian of the British Museum was recently surprised by a visitor inquiring if there was any extant autographs of the Saviour. Another asked for books on the subject of sorcery, and wished to know if there was any man in the room who could raise Beelzebub for him.

Interlaken, [illegible] was staying [illegible]

It is supposed that he had a fit of somnambulism.

—Young women of St. Paul complain that Librarian Putnam, of the Athenæum, looks "so contemptuous" when they ask for novels that it makes them nervous. One admits that she went to the library intending to get one of Ouida's novels, and [illegible] Putnam "looked so critical" that she asked for one of Miss Wister's translations read.

In the Library.

From the oriels one by one
Slowly fades the setting sun;
On the marge of afternoon
Stands the new-born crescent moon.
In the twilight's crimson glow
Dim the quiet alcoves grow.
Drowsy-lidded Silence smiles
On the long deserted aisles;
Out of every shadowy nook
Spirit faces seem to look.
Some with smiling eyes, and some
With a sad entreaty dumb;
He who shepherded his sheep
On the wild Sicilian steep,
He above whose grave are set
Sprays of Roman violet;
Poets, sages—all who wrought
In the crucible of thought.
Day by day as seasons glide
On the great eternal tide,
Noiselessly they gather thus
In the twilight beauteous,
Hold communion each with each,
Closer than our earthly speech,
Till within the east are born
Premonitions of the morn!

Clinton Scollard.

WHAT CONGRESSMEN READ.

A Chat With Mr. Spofford in Regard to the Mental Food of the Statesmen.

From the Washin on Star.

"What do Congressmen read? Well, that's a hard question," said Librarian Spofford, leading the way to an alcove and sitting down for a chat with the *Star* man. "You see, there are so many of them and their reading is diversified. But an active Congressman don't get much time for reading. They are attorneys, special agents and general business men for their constituents. They are called upon to do all sorts of private service. Yet there are some who are pretty close students and they are hard-working men, too. Now, here's a point: You can tell what the people are talking about by watching what certain active men read. Everything relating to treaty questions is in great demand. There are about a dozen Senators and eighteen or nineteen members who study this question very carefully. Every scrap of literature, every word that has any reference to treaties and our commercial relations with foreign nations and books upon the revenue are being read more than ever before. And I might add that this Congress reads more than any of its predecessors for twenty-three years. There are from three to four thousand books out of the library all the time. All books are read in which the question of how far the House may oppose the Senate in matters of treaties is discussed. They are always looking for precedents. There never was a body so eager for precedents as the American House of Representatives and none so ready to topple them all over. Papers relating to the Clay treaty of 1816 are much read now. Then there are always a few veteran students of finance and political economy in both houses. The railroad question is attracting a great deal of attention now. That is becoming a very important question, and it is a new one. There are no precedents to follow, and the stock of books on the subject is very limited. There is a constant demand for a book to give in a concise form the legislation of all the States concerning corporations and the result of its application. This is one of the greatest necessities of the hour. There is no such book, and I don't know that anybody contemplates preparing one."

"Are any of the members fond of light reading?" asked the *Star*.

"Yes, there is a great deal of light reading—novels, poetry and all kinds of fiction, but chiefly voyages and travels. Stories of the Arctic regions and narratives of the explorations in Africa, along the Congo basin, are much read. But a peculiar feature is the popularity of poetry in this Congress. All the British and American poets are read."

"Are the families of Congressmen generally fond of reading?"

"Yes, notwithstanding the social demands made upon them during their stay in this city, they read a large number of books. Some of the wives of Senators and members are close students of history. Many wives study history and politics for their husbands, always keeping right up to the times on all important questions, so as to help their husbands in their public labors. Even young ladies thus help their fath sometimes."

Book asked for "Page's history of the Rebellion" = Book wanted Bates's history of Pennsylvania volunteers"

" " " "The Brick House = " " Bleak House

" " " In a garden = " " Enoch Arden (This individual parenthetically informs you that he thought you had heard of an author named Tennyson.)

" " " Dixon's works = " " Dickens

" " " Massachusetts Historical Soc. = " " New England Historical and Genealogical Register

" " " DesCartes Commentations = " " Meditations

"Can you give me a few vols of miscellaneous pamphlets. I want to write something and they may give me an idea"

ditto. Of plays.

The old lady who gets very angry because you can't find a book which has never been published and which she is quite sure she has seen in the library.

Man who asks for the Bible and is disappointed that he dont find in it the materials of which God made the earth.

I SAW A BOY AND THE CAT IT WAS A FINE CAT